

Mails.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD, THE YOKOHAMA DOCK CO., LTD.

BREMEN.

IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINES.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
NAPLES, GENOA, ALGIERS, GIBRALTAR, SOUTHAMPTON, ANTWERP and BREMEN	"CORBEN" Capt. B. Wilhelm	WEDNESDAY, 21st April.
SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA	"DERFLINGER" Capt. G. Meiers	About WEDNESDAY, 21st April.
MANILA, YAP, NEWGUINEA, BRISBANE, SYDNEY and MELBOURNE	"PRINZ SIGISMUND" Capt. D. Lenz	FRIDAY, 23rd April, 5 P.M.
KUDAT and SANDAKAN	"HORNBO" Capt. F. Sembill	Beginning of May.

For further Particulars, apply to

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

MELCHERS & CO.,

GENERAL AGENTS, HONGKONG & CHINA.

Hongkong, 10th April, 1909.

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

FRENCH MAIL LINES.

FORTNIGHTLY SERVICE TO and FROM EUROPE via SUEZ CANAL TO and FROM JAPAN via SHANGHAI.

FOR	STEAMERS	CAPTAINS	TO SAIL ON
SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA	TOKIO	Charbonnel	12th April, P.M.
MARSHALLS, VIA PORTS	CALEDONNIEN	Brucq	13th April, at 1 P.M.
SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA	OCEANIE	Magnin	26th April, P.M.
MARSHALLS, VIA PORTS	ERNEST SIMONS	Girard	27th April, at 1 P.M.

Transshipment on the Co's Steamers at Singapore for Batavia; at Colombo for Calcutta, Bombay and Australia; at Port Said for the Levant, Constantinople and Black Sea.

Through Tickets to London via Paris from £7.10 up to £9.10. 20 hours' railway from Marseilles to London.

Interpreters meet passengers at their arrival in Marseilles.

For further particulars, apply to

P. de CHAMPMORIN,

AGENT,

QUEEN'S BUILDINGS.

Hongkong, 30th March, 1909.

MESSAGERIES CANTONNAISES.

FRENCH LINE OF STEAMERS BETWEEN HONGKONG, CANTON AND KOUANG-SI.

S. "PAUL BEAU," 1,900 tons, 14 knots.

R.S. "CHARLES HARDOUIN," 1,900 tons, 14 knots.

The speediest, most luxuriously appointed and punctual steamers on the line.

Departure from Hongkong at 10 P.M. (Saturdays excepted).

Departure from Canton at 5 P.M. (Sundays excepted).

These superb steamers carrying the French Mail are fitted throughout with Electric Light and Fans and were specially built for this trade. Excellent cuisine.

The Company's Own Wharf near Wing Lok Street and its berth in Canton opposite Shamshau.

For further particulars, please apply to the COMPANY'S OFFICE at Shamshau, Canton, or to their Agents

BARRETTO & CO., Hongkong.

Hongkong, 9th October, 1908.

EYES

RIGHT!

N. LAZARUS, OPHTHALMIC OPTICIAN, CORNER OF D'AGUIAR STREET AND QUEEN'S ROAD.

Will test your eyes free of charge, and if they are wrong will put them right.

Lenses Ground. All kinds of Spectacles for all requirements.

Ask for write for Illustrated Booklet on "Defective Sight" free.

LONDON. 1, John Street, Bedford Row, W.C.

HONGKONG. 24, Market Street.

Intimations.

No. 1 DOCK

Length inside 514 ft. Width of entrance, top 95 ft.; bottom 75 ft. Water on blocks, 27.5 ft. Time to pump out, 4 hours.

No. 2 DOCK

Length inside, 375 ft. Width of entrance, top 90.5 ft.; bottom 45.5 ft. Water on blocks, 26.5 ft. Time to pump out, 3 hours.

THESE DOCKS are conveniently situated in Yokohama harbour and the attention of Captains and Engineers is respectfully called to the advantages offered for Docking and repairing Vessels and Machinery of every description.

The plant and tools are of recent patterns for dealing quickly and cheaply with work and a large stock of material is always at hand, (plates and rivets all being tested by Lloyds' surveyors).

Two powerful Twin Screw Towboats are available for taking Vessels in or out of Dock, and for taking Sailing Vessels in or out of the bay. The floating derrick is capable of lifting 55 tons.

Steam Launches of Steel or Wood, Lighters, Steel Buildings and Roofs, Bridge Work, and all kinds of Machinery are made on the premises.

Tenders will be made up when required and the workmanship and material will be guaranteed.

The cost of Docking, and repair work, will be found to compare favourably with that of any port in the world.

Telephone: Nov. 378, 506, or 681.

Telegrams, "Dock, Yokohama," Codes A. B. O. 4th and 5th Edt.

Liebers, Scotts,

A. I. and Watkins.

Yokohama, May 23rd, 1905.

PHILATELIC NOVELTY PRESENTS.

BAOS OF USED POSTAGE STAMPS.

Containing:

All Asiatic Stamps.	All Chinese Stamps.
4,000 for \$8.00	4,000 for \$4.50
3,000 " 7.00	3,000 " 3.50
2,000 " 5.00	2,000 " 2.50
1,000 " 2.00	1,000 " 1.50
500 " 1.00	500 " .75

Also Stamps in Packets and Sets, and other Philatelic Requisites at prices to suit every body.

VIEW POSTCARDS, ALBUMS, HINGES, RAFAEL TUCK'S TOY BOOKS AND RELIEF SCRAPES, MANILA CIGARS AND CIGARETTES, &c., &c.

Inspection invited.

GRACA & CO.,

No. 27, Des Vaux Road.

FURNITURE WAREHOUSE

LI KWONG LOONG & CO.,

CABINET-MAKERS AND ART DECORATORS, from Shanghai, has re-opened their FURNITURE STORE

No. 39, Des Vaux Road CENTRAL. The only Shop in Hongkong with this name.

WHERE HIGH-CLASS FURNITURE

of every description can be made to order in any design required.

Have been patronised by the Hongkong Club, Hongkong Hotel, Telegraph Co., Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Firms and other leading Establishments in the Colony, to whom reference can be made as to the Superior Workmanship and Materials of the Furniture, &c., supplied.

Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd., write as follows:—

"We have pleasure in stating that Mr. LI KWONG LOONG furnished the Annex to our Dispensary and gave us every satisfaction."

(Sd.) A. S. WATSON & CO.

25th May, 1891.

ORDERS punctually attended to, and CHARGES most moderate.

AN INSPECTION INVITED.

Hongkong, 4th August, 1908.

THERAPION MAY NOW ALSO BE OBTAINED

IN DRAGEE (TASTELSS) FORM

THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY

TRADE MARK

THERAPION

THERAPION No. 1

This successful and highly popular remedy, used in the Continental Hospitals by Bichat, Rostan, Jobert, Velpeau and others, combines all the desiderata to be sought in a medicine of the kind, and surpasses every thing hitherto employed.

THERAPION No. 2

is a powerful purgative, and is used in the Continental Hospitals by Bichat, Rostan, Jobert, Velpeau and others, combines all the desiderata to be sought in a medicine of the kind, and surpasses every thing hitherto employed.

THERAPION No. 3

is a powerful purgative, and is used in the Continental Hospitals by Bichat, Rostan, Jobert, Velpeau and others, combines all the desiderata to be sought in a medicine of the kind, and surpasses every thing hitherto employed.

THERAPION No. 4

is a powerful purgative, and is used in the Continental Hospitals by Bichat, Rostan, Jobert, Velpeau and others, combines all the desiderata to be sought in a medicine of the kind, and surpasses every thing hitherto employed.

THERAPION No. 5

is a powerful purgative, and is used in the Continental Hospitals by Bichat, Rostan, Jobert, Velpeau and others, combines all the desiderata to be sought in a medicine of the kind, and surpasses every thing hitherto employed.

THERAPION No. 6

is a powerful purgative, and is used in the Continental Hospitals by Bichat, Rostan, Jobert, Velpeau and others, combines all the desiderata to be sought in a medicine of the kind, and surpasses every thing hitherto employed.

THERAPION No. 7

is a powerful purgative, and is used in the Continental Hospitals by Bichat, Rostan, Jobert, Velpeau and others, combines all the desiderata to be sought in a medicine of the kind, and surpasses every thing hitherto employed.

THERAPION No. 8

is a powerful purgative, and is used in the Continental Hospitals by Bichat, Rostan, Jobert, Velpeau and others, combines all the desiderata to be sought in a medicine of the kind, and surpasses every thing hitherto employed.

THERAPION No. 9

is a powerful purgative, and is used in the Continental Hospitals by Bichat, Rostan, Jobert, Velpeau and others, combines all the desiderata to be sought in a medicine of the kind, and surpasses every thing hitherto employed.

DRAPEY ROOB

SHIPLOADS OF FROZEN FILTH FROM UNITED STATES

A SCANDALOUS TRADE EXPOSED.

At the meeting of the Court of Common Council at the Guildhall on March 3 a report was presented by Dr. Williams, the medical officer of health for the Port of London, on the subject of the continued importation of diseased foreign meat. The most important fact pointed out by Dr. Williams was that some of the packages that contained this diseased stuff had been passed at the port of exportation by Government officials as containing sound food.

As an example of the necessity for inspection (the report stated), a vessel from the United States arrived on February 2, with a consignment including 100 cases of ox kidneys, 100 cases of ox livers, 250 cases of lamb plucks, etc.

Of the 250 boxes of plucks 13 boxes were thawed out for examination. Each box contained 12 sheep plucks, and out of the 156 no fewer than 10 of the livers and one of the lungs were found to be diseased. This was a high percentage, and it was decided that a further 45 boxes of plucks must be examined. The result of this examination was that 45 livers and 3 lungs were found to be diseased. It was thereupon decided not to allow the remainder to leave the dock until it had been thawed out and thoroughly examined.

A SUSPICIOUS FACT.

Out of the balance of 102 cases of sheep plucks (about 2,400 plucks) there were found to be diseased 528 sheep livers and 130 of the lungs.

These boxes bore an official label indicating that they had been inspected and passed in the country of exportation.

On the same ship there were 300 frozen pig carcasses, which were so hard that it was impossible to examine them to see whether there was any evidence of disease or whether the lymphatic glands were present. Five per cent (fifteen in all) were thawed out, with the result that two were found to be minus the lymphatic glands. The medical officer decided, therefore, to examine the remainder of the pig carcasses, but the consignees objected to thawing them out, alleging it would mean a total loss. They were given the alternative of returning them to the United States, and this they stated they would do. The day before the ship sailed, however, they decided to have the carcasses examined, and the heads were cut off, and the carcasses split up so that the examination could be made. This resulted in a further thirteen carcasses making a total of fifteen found to be without the lymphatic glands, in addition to one which was affected with tuberculosis. There was no necessity to remove the lymphatic glands unless for some specific object and presumably in the case of the fifteen carcasses found to be without such glands they had been found by inspection in the United States to show some evidence of disease.

LABELLED OFFICIALLY.

The medical officer pointed out the danger arising from this trade, and recommended that the same should be brought to the notice of the American Ambassador, and the various port sanitary authorities; further, that the Local Government Board should be informed of the danger prevailing to the public health through the importation of this offal, the serious attention of the department being called to the whole matter. He added that diseased meat can be, and is, imported into this country from America, although bearing an official label.

Mr. W. H. Williamson said the question was one of national importance. It was very difficult to inspect consignments in a frozen condition. Moreover, they came over duly certified by the American authorities as sound. When thawed they sometimes proved to be simply abominable filth. He declared that if these consignments had been eaten by the poor it would have led to an increase in that terrible disease known as cancer.

Mr. J. S. Robinson described the meat as newholome filth.

Mr. R. Davies appealed to the Corporation to give the discovery every publicity, and to take the earliest possible steps to prevent any recurrence of a disgraceful business. The report was unanimously adopted.

Intimations.

FAHST BREWING COMPANY, MILWAUKEE.

FRESH SUPPLIES

ALWAYS KEPT IN STOCK

BY

SIEMSEN & Co.,

Agents for

HONGKONG & SOUTH CHINA.

Hongkong, 20th July, 1907.

THE CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN AND MORTGAGE CO., LD.

(CAPITAL PAID UP £1,250,000)

Loans on Mortgage of House Property, &c.

Goods received on Storage.

Advances made on Merchandise.

Loans made on the Provident System.

(Rates and Particulars on application)

THE OFFICE OF

TRUSTEE, EXECUTOR OF WILLS

ATTORNEY &c.

Underwritten and Secured

SHAW, TOMES & CO.

General Managers

Hongkong, 10th March, 1909.

ROOMS suitable for Offices in No. 10, 1CK HOUSE STREET, in rear of David

CHAMBERS, with Balcony, and use of Kitchen in No. 5, WYNDHAM STREET, known as "College Chambers."

Apply to—

DAVID SAMSON & Co., LD.

Hongkong, 10th April, 1909.

WEATHER FORECAST AND STORM WARNINGS ISSUED FROM THE HONGKONG OBSERVATORY

METEOROLOGICAL SIGNALS

Meteorological signals are hoisted on the mast in front of the Water Police Station at Tsim Sha Tsui for the information of masters of vessels leaving the port. They do not necessarily imply that bad weather is expected here.

Signal No.

1. A CONE point upwards

Indicates a Typhoon to the North of the Colony.

2. A CONE point upwards and 1/4 UM below

Indicates a Typhoon to the North-East of the Colony.

3. A DRUM

Indicates a Typhoon to the East of the Colony.

4. A CONE point downwards and DRUM below

Indicates a Typhoon to the South-East of the Colony.

5. A CONE point downwards

Indicates a Typhoon to the South of the Colony.

6. A CONE point downwards and BALL below

Indicates a Typhoon to the South-West of the Colony.

7. A BALL

Indicates a Typhoon to the West of the Colony.

8. A CONE point upwards and BALL below

Indicates a Typhoon to the North-West of the Colony.

Red Signals indicate that the centre is believed to be more than 300 miles away from the Colony.

Black Signal, indicate that the centre is believed to be less than 300 miles away from the Colony.

The above signals will, as heretofore, be hoisted only when typhoons exist in such positions or are moving in such directions that information regarding them is considered to be of importance to the Colony or to shipping leaving the harbour.

These signals are repeated at the Harbour Office, H.M.S. Tamar, Green Island Signal Mast, and the Flagstaff on the premises of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company at Kowloon.

URGENT SIGNAL.

In addition to the above, when it is expected that the wind may increase to full typhoon force at any moment, the following Urgent Signal will be made at the Water Police Station, and repeated at the Harbour Office.

THREE EXPLOSIVE BOMBS, AT INTERVALS OF TEN SECONDS.

A Black Cross will be hoisted at the same time, superior to the other shapes.

NIGHT SIGNALS.

The following Night Signals will be exhibited from the Flagstaff on the roof of the Water Police Station at Kowloon, the Harbour Office Flagstaff, and H.M.S. Tamar.

I. Three Lights Vertical, Green Green Green, indicates that a typhoon is believed to be situated more than 300 miles from the Colony.

II. Three Lights Vertical, Green Red Green, indicates that a typhoon is believed to be situated less than 300 miles from the Colony.

III. Three Lights Vertical, Red Green Red, indicates that the wind may be expected to increase to full typhoon force at any moment.

No. III. Signal will be accompanied by the Explosive Bombs, as above, in the event of the information conveyed by this signal being first published by night.

These Night Signals will be substituted for the Day Signals at sunset; and will, when necessary, be altered during the night.

SUPPLEMENTARY WARNINGS.

For the benefit of Native Craft and passing Ocean Vessels, a Cone will be exhibited at each of the following stations during the time that any of the above Day Signals are hoisted in the Harbour.

Cap Rock.

Waglan.

Stanley.

Cape D'Orléans.

This will indicate that there is a depression somewhere in the China Sea, and that a storm warning is hoisted in the Harbour.

Further details can always be found in Ocean Vessels, as demanded by signals from the Harbour.

Hongkong, 10th March, 1909.

Intimations.

Powell's

28, Queen's Road.

NEW GOODS
FOR
GENTLEMEN'S
WEAR

Fine Quality

Zephyr

Shirts

Exclusive Designs

Thin

Cashmere

and

Lisle Thread
Socks

in

PLAIN COLOURS
and
SMART STRIPES

INDIA GAUZE

and

CELLULAR
SINGLET

PITH,

CORK

and

RUBBER

HELMETS

Moderate Prices

Gentlemen's
Department.

POWELL'S

ALEXANDRA

BUILDINGS

28, Queen's Road.

Hongkong, 10th April, 1909.

Intimations.

SAINT-RAPHAEL

TONIO, RESTORATIVE, DIGESTIVE WINE
Very palatable.Known throughout the world and prescribed in all cases of
Anemia, Debility and Convalescence, to young women, children
and the aged, invaluable in hot climates.

DOSE: One wine-glass after the two principal meals.

Each bottle of genuine VIN SAINT-RAPHAEL bears, in addition
to the registered trade-mark:

(1) The WARRANTY STAMP OF THE UNION DES FABRICANTS.

(2) A METAL SEAL advertising CLETEAS.

CLETEAS is a MELISSA and MINT Cordial
which surpasses all others by its
purity and faultless preparation. To be taken on a lump of sugar.
COMPAGNIE DU VIN SAINT-RAPHAEL, Valence (Drôme-France).

SAINT-RAPHAEL, Valence (Drôme-France).

THE DAIRY FARM CO., LD.

We are Specializing in a Line of

BACON and HAM.

EXCEPTIONAL QUALITY.

Only 00 cents a lb.

CUT OR UNCUT.

Hongkong, 27th March, 1909.

INTERNATIONAL SLEEPING CAR

and

EXPRESS TRAINS TO

(THE

GREAT TRANS-SIBERIAN ROUTE

TO EUROPE.)

HAVING been appointed AGENTS for

the above Company, we shall be

pleased to give any information as to rates of

passage, &c., in connection with above.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.

Agents.

Hongkong, 1st July, 1909.

DON'T BUY

ELSEWHERE BEFORE YOU CALL AT

FRENCH STORE

(Opposite ASTOR HOUSE).

NOW SHOWING

A Large and Fancy Assortment of

The Best FRENCH TOYS, DOLLS,

TOM SMITH'S CRACKERS,

CADBURY'S CHOCOLATE,

PERNOT BISCUITS.

&c., &c., &c.

Hongkong, 21st November, 1908.

NOTICE

MR. L. HON FAN, a Chinese graduate
versed in literature, has been a teacher
to European officials and merchants in this
Colony for over ten years.He has a good method of training Euro-
peans to pass in the Chinese examination, and
is possessed of a first rate certificate as a
Chinese teacher.Those who intend learning the Chinese
language are requested to write care of
Hongkong Telegraph office or direct to 37,
Hollywood Road, 2nd floor.

Hongkong, 27th February, 1909.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

FROM and after 1st January, 1909, the
rates of Subscription to the Hongkong
Telegraph (daily and weekly issues) will be as
follows:—

Daily—\$36 per annum.

Weekly—\$13 per annum.

The rates per quarter and per month, pro-
portional. Subscriptions for any period less
than one month will be charged as for a full
month.The daily issue is delivered free when the
address is accessible to messenger. Post
subscribers can have their copies delivered
at their residences without any extra charge.
On copies sent by post an additional \$1.80
per quarter is charged for postage.The postage on the weekly issue to any part
of the world is 50 cents per quarter.Single Copies, Daily, 10 cents. Weekly,
twenty-five cents (for cash only).

(PAYABLE IN ADVANCE)

There will be no rebate to Missionary
Subscribers as heretofore.

By Order,

THE MANAGER,

Hongkong Telegraph Co., Ltd.

Hongkong, 2nd December, 1908.

Auction.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions
to sell by
PUBLIC AUCTION,
FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED,
ON

TUESDAY,

the 13th April, 1909, at 11 A.M. at their
Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Voeux Road,
corner of Ice House Street,A QUANTITY OF
AMERICAN BOOTS, UMBRELLAS,
SOCKS, SINGLETS, &c.

Also

3,000 EGYPTIAN CIGARETTES.

TERMS:—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH,

Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 7th April, 1909.

Consignees.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD, BREMEN.

IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINE.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE Steamship

"BULO,"

having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby
informed that their Goods, with the exception
of Opium, Treasure, and Valuables, are being
landed and stored at their risk into the hazardous
and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hong-
kong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Com-
pany, Limited, at Kowloon, and West Point
Godown, whence delivery may be obtained.No Claims will be admitted after the Goods
have left the Godowns, and all Goods remain-
ing undelivered after the 14th of April, will
be subject to rent.All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are
to be left in the Godowns, where they will be
examined on the 14th of April, at 9 A.M.All Claims must reach us before the 14th of
April, 1909, or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the
Undersigned.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

MELCHERS & Co.,

General Agents.

Hongkong, 7th April, 1909.

Dentistry.

TSIN TING.

ATTEST METHODS OF DENTISTRY.

STUDIO AT NO. 14, D'AGUIAR STREET.

REASONABLE FEE.

Consultation Free.

Hongkong, 20th June, 1904.

DR. M. H. CHAUN,

THE LATEST METHOD

of the

AMERICAN SYSTEM OF DENTISTRY

21, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,

From the University of Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

Hongkong, 15th April, 1909.

Benger's Food is
mixed with fresh
new milk when
used, is dainty
and delicious,
highly nutritive,
and most easily
digested. Infants
thrive on it, and
delicate or aged
persons enjoy it.Benger's Food is sold in this by all
Chemists, etc., everywhere.

THE FOUNDING OF SINGAPORE.

SIR J. E. HAY AND MRS. GORDON.

The 66 old sailor, Admiral Sir John Dalrymple
Hay, who has just celebrated his eighty-
eighth birthday, entered the Royal Navy
seventy-five years ago, and was at the capture
of Bayvet and St. Jean d'Acres in 1740. Then
he went to China, and bore his share in chasing
piratical junks and in the operations
in Borneo in 1845, under Admiral Sir Thomas
Cochrane. By the time the Crimean War broke
out he was a captain, and he commanded the
"Hannibal" in the Black Sea. Promoted to
Rear-Admiral in 1866, he became a naval lord
at Whitehall, and he is the senior living officer
that has served on the Board of Admiralty.
Sir John is the fourth baronet of his ancient
line, and a splendid, and now almost extinct,
type of our old-time admirals.It was Sir John Dalrymple Hay who told the
Editor of the Singapore Free Press (who knew
Sir John in Wigtonshire many years ago)
when he was home last in 1902, one Sunday
evening in the Scottish Conservative Club, in
Edinburgh, that the late Mrs. Bellamy-Gordon,
of Keonmure Castle, Kirkcudbrightshire, an old
friend of the Admiral's, related to him in her
own house, that she had sailed from Penang in
a schooner with Sir Stamford Raffles to Singa-
pore in 1819, and herself saw the British flag
hoisted here.That interesting historical incident is no-
where on written record (unless it be in the
Gordon family archives at Keonmure Castle
amongst the lady's private letters from Penang),
but has been transmitted directly verbally from
her through Sir John Dalrymple Hay, to the
Editor as above mentioned.Mr. Bellamy-Gordon when Singapore was
taken over by Sir Stamford Raffles, was a Mrs.
Bellamy, her husband being a Bengal official
of the Honourable East India Company at
Penang, where Sir Stamford Raffles was fre-
quently a guest of the Bellamys. On inheriting
the Keonmure estates (she was originally a
Miss Gordon of Keonmure) she added the name
of Gordon to her married name of Bellamy.Sir John Dalrymple Hay knew Singapore
well as a naval officer, first visiting this place
in the "Spitfire," a paddle-steamer in 1843, and
had much service in the Straits, Borneo and
on the China station. (He did not forget to
ask about his old friend Mr. W. H. Read when
we met him.) In his book of reminiscences
"Liner from My Log Book," under the year
1883, Sir John makes this reference to Mr.
Bellamy Gordon:—"I lost another old friend soon after at the
age of ninety-three—Mrs. Bellamy Gordon of
Keonmure Castle, which she restored. She en-
joyed me frequently as member for New
Galloway at her picturesque old residence. On
the 4th October I played three rubbers of
whist with her partner, and she was much pleased
that two of them were bumpers. In her early
life Mr. Bellamy, her husband, had been Resi-
dent of Penang, and she entertained Sir
Stamford Raffles when he took possession of
the 'savage' land of Singapore and founded
one of the greatest emporiums in the East.
When Lord Keonmure, her brother, died she
was the possessor of the ancient historical
southern Gordons, and showed
possessed all attributes which are em-
bodied in the verse—"There never was coward of Gordon blood
Nor yet of Keonmure's line."From Sir John Hay's date at the death of
Mrs. Bellamy-Gordon, and her age at death it
will be seen that she was born in 1790, and was
29 years of age when she took a health trip
from Penang to Singapore at the end of
January 1819 in the schooner of Sir Stamford
Raffles, and was thus the only European lady
present at the hoisting of the flag at Singapore.

ABORIGINES OF YUNNAN.

PICTURESQUE COSTUMES WORN
BY WOMEN.

PECULIARITIES OF A STRANGE RACE.

A correspondent of the N. C. D. News who
is travelling through South-western Yunnan
gives a graphic description of the strange
ethnographical hotchpotch which exists in this
little known corner of the Chinese empire. He
says: "The following are the names of a few
distinct tribes that came across along the
route traversed:—Behgai, of Bezo, Puto,
Pukong, Bai, of Mohshan, Shimo, Kato,
Kaph, Mingja, of Peholke, Yao, Mohwalolo,
Lo bi Chider, Lahm, or Ahmo. Generally the
men are dressed like Chinese, but the women
betray their nationality by their curious
costumes and profuse ornaments. Some dress
in dark blue, some in light blue or white; some
trim their dark garments with light blue; some
use hemp, some cotton. Some use long skirts
open at one side, and loose jackets, similar to
those worn by the Lepcha women in the
Himalayas. Some use short petticoats to the
knees; some have a plaited apron behind and
short bodices; others have no skirts at all, but
tight trousers to the knees and a short jacket.
Some again are peculiar for their putties, or
bandages round the legs. With the exception
of the Mingja women, the women folk seldom
wear more than two garments—an upper and a
lower. Again, the head-dress is often a dis-
tinguishing mark, and even serves to dis-
tinguish mothers and spinners.

THE MOTHER'S DRESS.

That we see the mother with a large piece of
cloth on her head, artificially laid so as to pro-
tect over her forehead and also to cover her
neck. It is fastened with massive plaits of hair.
The young maiden comes with her black hair
hanging loose down her back and shoulders,
with a small round cap on her head.
All are barefooted and are not in the least
embarrassed by their natural feet. The colour of
the teeth is sometimes a disgusting black. Some
have white, some red, some black teeth.
They all have ornaments (like most of their
sex) and these serve to distinguish the pop-
ulation from the other. Silver is the metal most
commonly used, and it is fashioned into allkinds of curious ornaments. Big bells, but-
tons, chains, spikes, rings, balls, bracelets,
armlets, etc., etc. Some of the women have
their collars and even apron-strings ornamented
with tiny bells and tinkles. Women of a
certain tribe have silver ornaments worn in
likely and unlikely places over their upper
garments. Others again excel in embroidery.
Some have large squares on the chest made of
silver buttons, others carry rows of silver but-
tons on the head. Beads are also much em-
ployed by some—made of various things, even
red seeds.

LIKE ANNAMITES.

The various tribes are physically different.
Some are strong and sturdy—resembling one
of Nepitese; others again are thin and delicate—
strongly resembling Annamites both in ap-
pearance and mode of life; others again are
strangely new unlike any other people. Clima-
te is no doubt responsible for much of both
build and appearance as well as habits. Gen-
erally speaking their diet is very poor. They
seem to live mainly on rice and vegetables. I
asked for flour, but they said: There is no
wheat grown in these parts. Indian corn? No.
Buck-wheat? No. The Mingja tribe (possibly
migrated from the Taliu district) seem to be
better off than most. They live in better
houses and dress better. Flat-roofed, mud
houses are the most common in these parts.

Entertainment

COMING COMING

THE
HIPPODROME
CIRCUS &
MENAGERIE.

LOCATION:

CAUSEWAY BAY.

WATCH THE DATE.

Box Plan

ROBINSON PLANO CO.

A. JACKSON,

Representative,

Hongkong, 5th April, 1909.

Intimations.

PEAK TRAMWAYS COMPANY,
LIMITED.

TIME TABLE

WEEK DAYS.

7.00 a.m. to 10.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
10.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
11.30 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
12.45 p.m. to 1.15 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
1.45 p.m. to 2.15 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
2.15 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
3.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
5.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.

NIGHT CARS.

8.45 p.m. and 9 p.m. 9.45 p.m. to 11.15 p.m.
every half hour.

SUNDAYS.

8.00 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
9.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. Every 30 minutes.
9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
11.45 a.m. to 12.00 noon. Every 15 minutes.
12.00 noon to 1.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
1.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
5.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
6.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
7.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.

NIGHT CARS on Week Days.

SATURDAYS.

Extra cars at 3.15 p.m., 11.30 p.m. and
11.45 p.m.SPECIAL CARS by Arrangement at the
Company's Office, ALEXANDRA BUILDING,
Des Voeux Road Central.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,

General Managers.

Hongkong, 1st April, 1909.

F. BLACKHEAD & Co.,

SHIP-CHANDLERS, SAILMAKERS,

COAL AND PROVISION MERCHANTS,

NAVAL CONTRACTORS

AND GENERAL COMMISSION

AGENTS.

GROUND FLOOR,

ST. GEORGE'S BUILDING,

HONGKONG.

SOAP AND SODA MANUFACTURERS.

SOLE AGENTS FOR

HARTMANN'S RAHTJEN'S GENUINE

COMPOSITION RED HAND

BRAND, HARTMANN'S GREY PAINT,

DAIMLER'S PATENT MOTOR

LAUNCHES.

Sole Agents for

FERGUSON'S SPECIAL ORNAM

and

P. & O. SPECIAL LIQUOR BOOTH

WHISKY, &c.

EVERY KIND OF

SHIP STORES AND REQUISITES

ALWAYS IN STOCK

REASONABLE PRICES.

HONGKONG, 10th April, 1909.

Intimations.

DONE BY TRYING.

Nobody can tell what he can do till he tries.
When a thing ought to be done the modern
spirit moves us to keep working away at it
until it is done. In the face of this idea the
"impossible" vanishes. Where there's a will,
there's a way. "If we could but rob cod liver
oil of its sickening taste and smell and then
combine it with two or three other ingredients
we should possess the best remedy in the world
for certain diseases that are now practically
incurable." So said a famous English physi-
cian twenty-five years ago. "But it will never
be done," he added. "You can't so more turn
cod liver oil into a pleasant palatable medicine,
than you can turn the Codfish itself into a Bird
of Paradise." Yet he lived to admit that!

WAMPOLE'S PREPARATION

the "impossible" had been accomplished. It
is palatable as honey and contains all the
nutritive and curative properties of Pure Cod
Liver Oil, extracted by us from fresh cod livers,
combined with the Compound Syrup of
Hypophosphites, Extracts of Malt and Wild
Cherry. This remedy is freed from the bad
peculiarities Dr. Frothingham so detested, and
it is precisely the splendid medicine he wished
for. Use it freely and confidently for Anemia,
Hysteria, Wasting Complaints, Blood Impuri-
ties, Asthma, and Throat and Lung Troubles,
Dr. W. H. B. Aikins, F. R. C. P., London, —
M. D. C. M., Victoria University, — M. B.,
Toronto University, — Consulting Physician to
Home for Incurables, Physician to Toronto
General Hospital, says: "I am much pleased
to state that the results from using Wampole's
Preparation of Cod Liver Oil have been
uniformly satisfactory; it appealed to me
as being prepared according to correct sci-
entific principles." It increases the appetite and
influences the digestion of food; it is delicious
to take, will not disappoint you, and is effective
from the first dose. "It represents the dawn
of progress." At chemists everywhere.

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

NOTICE.

THE HALF-YEARLY MEETING of
the above Club will be held on SATUR-
DAY, the 17th April, 1909, at 1.30 p.m., at the
Office of the Jockey Club on the ground floor
of the Hongkong Club Annex, Charter Road.

By Order,

T. F. HOUGH,

Clerk of the Course.

Hongkong, 3rd April, 1909.

FIRE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION

OF HONGKONG.

BANK HOLIDAYS.

IN accordance with Ordinance No. 6 of 1875,
all FIRE INSURANCE OFFICES will
be CLOSED for the Transaction of PUBLIC
BUSINESS on MONDAY, the 12th instant
(EASTER MONDAY).

By Order,

A. R. LOWE,

Secretary.

Hongkong, 10th April, 1909.

BANK HOLIDAYS.

IN accordance with Ordinance No. 6 of
1875, the EXCHANGE BANKS will
be CLOSED for the Transaction of PUBLIC
BUSINESS on MONDAY, the 12th instant
(EASTER MONDAY).

Hongkong, 10th April, 1909.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY,
LIMITED.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

In Casks of 375 lbs. net \$5.50 per Cask

ex Factory.

Intimation.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

CHEMISTS

BY APPOINTMENT TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE

GOVERNOR AND HOUSEHOLD.

Watson's
HYGIENOL,
AND
BUBONIC PLAGUE!

It has been proved by repeated experiments that "WATSON'S HYGIENOL" is the most potent agent for the destruction of fleas, especially rat fleas.

It has now been proved that Plague is conveyed to human beings by means of fleas from rats which have died of this disease.

All risk of infection can be avoided by washing the floors, etc., or sprinkling where the fleas are likely to be with a dilute solution of "WATSON'S HYGIENOL." A teaspoonful to a pint of water, or a teaspoonful to three gallons, makes a solution of the strength required for this purpose.

HYGIENOL IS A POWERFUL
DISINFECTANT AND
GERMICIDE.

Price per Pint 50 cents
" " Gallon \$2.00

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.

HONGKONG DISPENSARY

AND

KOWLOON DISPENSARY.

Hongkong, 17th March, 1909.

BIRTH.
BELILIOS—On April 8th, at Green Park House, 24 Piccadilly, London, the wife of Mr. R. E. BELILIOS, of a son. (By Wire). [137]

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 1909.

CHINESE RAILWAYS AND
FINANCES.

Whether the representatives of Great Britain through the British Minister at Peking with reference to the proposed German loan for the purpose of constructing a section of the Canton-Hankow line will bear fruit is still open to question, but there is reason to believe that British investors in Chinese railway stocks are becoming chary of entrusting their money unless the Chinese Imperial Government is prepared to give ample security in return. This feeling of doubt with regard to the capability of the Chinese Government to carry the responsibilities she has undertaken in this direction is emphasised by the Peking correspondent of the London Times who recently sent a somewhat alarmist report to his paper regarding the Shanghai-Hangchow-Ningpo railway. It must not be forgotten that Dr. Morrison is apt to indulge in gloomy prognostications when things are dull and equally inclined to indulge in optimistic reviews when the mood is upon him. As the result of an inspection of the line in question Dr. Morrison presented serious charges of incompetence against the constructors and suggested that the capital supplied by British investors was being squandered. Then there was a statement issued by the Board of Communications giving the results of the working of the principal lines, shown a profit on the working of most of the northern lines but a considerable loss on others, more especially the Shanghai-Nanking Railway. There have also been reports that the different sections of the Tientsin-Pukow Railway are not making equally satisfactory progress, and lately the Associate Director of that railway was in Shanghai en route to Pukow to make an inspection of the Southern section of the line while the statement was made a few days ago that the Viceroy has appointed an able British engineer to make an inspection of the Shanghai-Hangchow-Ningpo Railway, with a view to ascertaining whether or not Dr. Morrison's criticisms are well-founded.

As a Northern contemporary points out there is reason to believe that all this activity is due to the operations of rival syndicates and that, in consequence, the reports are not always to be implicitly trusted. A writer in the Mercury of Shanghai holds that the heavy loss reported in the working of the Shanghai-Nanking Railway during the past year proves that the fact that a line has been splendidly constructed and supplied with irreplaceable rolling stock is not sufficient to ensure its being run on a paying basis. It must be well managed, which no doubt the Shanghai-Nanking line is, and besides be able to secure profitable traffic, which apparently the Shanghai-Nanking line cannot do, notwithstanding the fact that it traverses one of the richest districts of China. The Chinese Government, however, seems to be awakening to the fact that all is not well with the railway, as it is announced in a native telegram from Peking that the Board of Communications intends to send a high official to investigate, along with the Governor of Kiangsu, into the causes of the heavy loss incurred in the year's working of the line, and mention is made of revising the freight regulations. In this connection the Peking and Tientsin Times has recently published a suggestive article dealing with the financial position of Chinese railways, with special reference to the Canton-Hankow section of the grand trunk line. It is well understood, says our contemporary, that China is at present negotiating a loan of some four millions sterling, in order to finance the construction of four hundred miles of the railway between Hankow and Canton. Her chances of success, however, can hardly be rated very highly, for several reasons must militate against her in the judgment of British financiers. The Chinese Government has no reputation for efficiency in constructional undertakings of this kind. The Imperial Chinese Revenue is very inelastic under present conditions, and its figures demonstrate how utterly inadequate that revenue is as security for a loan. The present foreign debt of China amounts to £125,000,000, which has been almost entirely contracted within the last thirteen years. To pay the interest on that debt a sum of seven and a half millions is required, of which it is estimated that productive works supply about a million. The charge on the Imperial Revenue is, therefore, six-and-a-half millions sterling to provide with the revenue of the Imperial Maritime Customs and part of the Provincial revenues are hypothecated; and there remains but a balance of some six millions sterling to meet the purposes of the ordinary expenditure. That sum is obviously insufficient even to meet executive expenses; and it is notorious that additional money has to be scraped together each year in order to make good the deficit. Nor does it appear that the revenue can be expanded; and in these circumstances, it is very doubtful whether China can give the requisite security for the large loan that is required. The true policy, of course, says the London Globe, of March 4, is to place the contract for building the line with European engineers, in which case the work would be done more cheaply, more efficiently, and without any financial difficulty. So far our contemporaries. From the Hongkong reader's standpoint all these things have been said before and will in all likelihood be repeated in the near future. But if China's ability to offer the necessary security to those able and willing to lead loans for constructional purposes is so inadequate why all this fuss over the question whether Germany or Great Britain be allowed to undertake the work? The fact seems to be that the home and foreign press is being manipulated by financial speculators who are well aware that China is in a position to offer all the security required and who are only seeking to detract the attention of gullible investors from the real issues at stake. Great Britain has a perfect right to demand that China should observe to the letter her treaty obligations, but beyond that she cannot go, just as she is unable to compel China to accept preferred capital even if it is at a lower rate and more favourable than that offered by other Powers. The whole subject resolves itself into a diplomatic tangle which it seems hardly possible to unravel at the moment, and the probability is that we shall hear of negotiations taking place over the question for years to come. Meanwhile China has no difficulty in getting the money she requires for the construction of new railways in the Middle Kingdom, and that, after all, is the main issue from the point of view of those concerned with the real interests of the Empire, and its prosperity and advancement in the path of progress.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE
COMPRADORE SYSTEM.

The question whether European merchants trading in China can succeed in doing business without the interposition of the compradore is once more agitating a section of the foreigners in Tientsin, with the usual result. It is contended that if every European assistant were required to possess a fluent colloquial understanding of the Chinese language the line would speedily

arrive when the services of the compradore could be dispensed with and foreign traders would be in a position to deal direct with the Chinese buyer. To those who have given a modicum of study to this question the great fallacy underlying all such propositions is apparent. It seems to be assumed that immediately a foreigner is staffed by assistants of linguistic ability the ordinary Chinese dealer would be content to conduct all his trade operations through the European staff, and that the unfortunate compradore would be relegated to outer darkness. It seems to be forgotten that the Chinese people are becoming more and more averse to the idea of granting foreigners greater facilities of business intercourse than they already possess. In many cases it is extremely probable that the compradore's department is the real bulwark of a foreign firm engaged in Chinese trade, and that were it not for his attachment to the firm with which he may be associated and his general integrity and comparative disinterestedness the trade dealings of many foreign houses would languish and finally disappear. The Chinese are no longer to be regarded as nonentities, incapable of looking after their own interests. They are as alive to the possibilities of trade as any foreign firm, whether it be conducted by British, German, American or Japanese merchants and the elimination of the compradore would only induce Chinese syndicates to spring into being and absorb the trade which is now handled by European houses through the medium of the compradore and his staff. Moreover, the compradore has the business of foreign markets at his fingers' ends; he has painfully and laboriously acquired the most intimate knowledge of and acquaintance with the methods of European middlemen, and that knowledge would immediately be placed at the disposal of his compatriots when it was not utilized by himself—were he dismissed as an unnecessary incubus. Who that lives in the Far East believes for a moment that he would be content to be snuffed out as a burden and a nuisance without making any effort at retaliation? Who can claim that foreign trade in China is not, on the whole, admirably served by the compradores, with their myriad interests and wide sympathy with those of their fellow-subjects with whom they have commercial connection? Not the great business firms established in China apparently, otherwise why this spate when the question of doing away with the compradore system is mooted. It is all very well for a Blackburn Chamber of Commerce to say that young Englishmen who have an inclination to engage as assistants in British houses in China should learn the Chinese language. No doubt that is so, and such a knowledge in addition to their stock in trade would do them good to help to modify that ineffable conceit which is the hallmark of the great majority of foreign striplings when they come into contact with Chinese dealers. But who, with any appreciation of the situation, will go farther and say that it will result in the relations between foreign traders and Chinese dealers being improved to such an extent that the compradore will become a virtual curiosity? The Blackburn Chamber of Commerce said:—"Speaking generally of foreign merchants, unless they are going to do more in the future than they are doing at present, they will have to go, and manufacturers at home ought to send out agents who thoroughly understand their business and who must learn to speak the Chinese language"; and again: "It is absolutely certain that an up-country buyer, because of his ignorance of any foreign language, is compelled to do business through the compradore which means that it must be done on that gentleman's terms or not at all. The merchant is no longer a merchant but simply the agent for the compradore, the latter doing all the work—finding customers, selling to them, and guaranteeing the accounts. This position has gradually grown out of the easy-going habits of the merchants and through their inability to speak Chinese." All that bundle of platitudes makes a very fine showing, but it does not prove that if a British seller were to operate without the assistance of a Chinese compradore he would be any the more successful. The fact is that the compradore is an institution in China and, willy-nilly, he will remain so unless some unforeseen cataclysm of nature eradicates his existence. One correspondent who ridicules the assertion that the compradore can be abolished remarks: "I would like to emphasise the point that unless a man has a formal and proper introduction to Chinese merchants it is considered absolute rudeness and a breach of etiquette to attempt dealing direct for which you are sure to be snubbed and treated with contumely. This is a view which is not sufficiently realised by those who condemn the system. Chinese customs and Chinese business methods must be considered when dealing in China, and if you don't know or understand them my opinion is stick to your compradore, always, or you will be landed in an unpleasant abyss of claims, etc. The attempt at direct dealing, going up-country with your own place goods, etc., has been tried before and on for years by British-speaking Chinese. It has never proved successful."

take cargo 300 or 1,500 miles from Shanghai and the Chinese dealers of those districts will leave you alone a derelict, virtually without business or occupation, and the question remains how long can any one wait unless he is a Chinaman? Again there is no money in any of these districts and you must therefore accept native bank orders and you must be a Chinaman to know whether the bank is sound or that some undecurrent is not at work. To sum up the whole matter it is madness for traders to go up-country whilst the financial conditions remain unaltered or until the banking and currency are put on a satisfactory basis. It is losing the substance in a vain attempt to achieve the impossible. There we may allow the matter to rest, confident that if the leading banks, shipping companies and industrial undertakings find it advantageous to retain the services of a compradore and his staff a drastic measure such as that implied in the assertions of those who know little or nothing of the actual conditions is wholly out of the question and a merely visionary project which would probably result in the general decay of foreign trade with the Chinese dealers.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE German mail of the 10th March was delivered in London on the 8th inst.

Mr. J. W. Bando has been appointed a director of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank during the absence on leave of Mr. G. Friesland.

THE King's exequatur empowering Mr. J. H. de Reus to act as Consul-General for the Netherlands at Hongkong has received His Majesty's signature.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint Dr. G. M. Harston to be a member of the Medical Board and to serve as secretary during the absence from the Colony of Dr. F. O. Stedman.

INFORMATION has been received from the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs that a derelict junk of about 150 tons has been sighted in Formosa Channel—Latitude 24° 57' N; Longitude 119° 55' E.

FIELD firing will be carried out from a point near the junction of the roads from the Shatin and Grasscutters' Passes in an easterly and north-easterly direction, on the 13th instant, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Mr. Frederick O'Brien, editor of the *Cadence-American* (of Manila), arrived in the Colony on Thursday last. He will visit Canton during his stay here, and leaves for the United States on a few days on a holiday.

A POULTRY dealer of the Central Market was fined \$5 for unlawfully selling partridges out of season. The prohibitory period is between March and September. Detective Sergeant Mortimer O'Sullivan prosecuted.

REPORTS from Negros island state that the sugar plantations are overrun with locusts which are doing immense damage to sugar, both the growing crop and that which is ready for the mill. So great is the plague of these locusts that there are not enough labourers available to drive them off. The estates of Cadiz Nuevo, Higoaran, Isabela and Binalbagan are the heaviest sufferers.

A CORONER'S inquiry was held at the Magistrate's Court on Thursday concerning the death of a coolie, Cheng Tin, aged twenty-two, who came to a terrible end at Hongkong on the 23rd ultimo. According to the evidence Cheng Tin was engaged in unloading a bill, when a rock, weighing about two tons, crashed down on his head. It struck the unfortunate labourer immediately above the stomach, and crushed him to death. "Accidental death" was the verdict returned. Police Sergeant Watt, of Hongkong Police Station, was present during the proceedings.

"EXIT THE T. P. D. CO."

PAYING SURPLUS FUNDS TO LOCAL CHARITIES.

VALEDICTORY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS.

An extraordinary general meeting of the Taikong Paper Dock Co., Ltd. (in liquidation) was held at the Singapore Exchange Rooms, at 12.30 p.m. today for the purpose of receiving an account showing the manner in which the winding-up had been conducted and the property of the company disposed of and of determining by extraordinary resolution the manner in which the books, accounts, and documents of the liquidator should be disposed of, reports the Straits Times of 2nd inst.

The following resolutions were passed:—

(1) That the liquidator's accounts, dated the 1st day of November, 1907, and 24th February, 1909, be and are hereby adopted and approved.

(2) That it being impracticable to distribute among shareholders the surplus funds amounting to \$357.07 such sum shall be paid to the following charities in the following proportions, namely:—

To the Straits Settlements Benevolent Fund \$180.00

To the Committee of the Sailors' Home, Singapore 179.07

(3) That the books, accounts, and documents of the liquidator be disposed of by being delivered to the Taikong Paper Dock Board.

Mr. J. S. M. Rouse, the liquidator, presiding, congratulated the shareholders upon the result of the valedictory and thanked those who had assisted him in connection therewith.

There was some argument in favour of naming for the Children's Aid Society and St. Mary's Home as the two charities between which the surplus funds were to be divided, but the majority adhered to the original plan. The event was a most interesting one and was well attended.

LADY LUGARD'S DEPARTURE.

LEADING CHINESE TO BID FAREWELL.

Lady Lugard, the genial wife of the genial Governor of Hongkong, will depart for the homeland this afternoon on board the C. P. R. liner the *Empress of Japan*. Previous to her departure, a deputation of leading Chinese, citizens of the Colony, will be presented by Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, C.M.G., at Government House at half-past four in the afternoon.

Lady Lugard, whose recent serious illness was the cause of much anxiety, has been obliged to sever her connections with the Colony owing to the fact that her Ladyship's health was marred on more than one occasion by a treacherous climate. While regretting Lady Lugard's departure, which will be felt more keenly than at Government House, we congratulate Her Excellency on her convalescence and wish her a pleasant sojourn in the land of her birth. During her Ladyship's stay in the Colony, she endeared herself to all with whom she came in contact by her amiable and kindly disposition and none will feel her absence more poignantly than those who have good cause to be thankful to her for substantial sympathy in the cause of charity.

CHINESE WOMAN AND A FORTUNE-TELLER.

REMARKABLE STORY OF HOW SHE WAS DUPED.

A remarkable story—one which shows how easily it is for some Chinese women to be duped—was told at police headquarters the other day. The story at present lacks confirmation, but we present it to readers for what it is worth.

A young Chinese woman residing in Wellington Street paid a visit to the house of a fortune-teller (in Queen's Road Central) on the 13th February last, to have her fortune told. She found the gentleman at home, and, after giving him to understand the object of her visit, was requested to be seated. The fortune-teller busied himself about the room and with much ado produced from a box a handful of sticks, each about a foot or more in length, which he placed in a bamboo holder. According to the young woman's account of the affair, when everything was ready she was asked her name and address, which she gave. She was next asked her name, but, curiously enough, this she could not tell.

"Well," began the charlatan, shading his eyes with one hand and looking at the sticks on the table, "yours have been an adventurous life. I see from these things here" (pointing with the other hand to the "magic" sticks) "that you were the daughter of a very wealthy man in the last world. You had a misfortune, for during a fire you were burnt to death—your family, and all."

The young woman, who evidently has faith in such persons, vouchsafed no reply.

"I can see," continued the "great man," "that you have had times ahead. As I read from the sticks, which are never false, you will suffer, firstly, from a bad foot, which will be most painful and will be long to be cured. Then you will have bad luck. You will lose all those who are dear to you, and furthermore all your property."

That was all he could tell her, and the woman left the house, after paying the fee, very much downhearted. Several days later she paid the "prophet" man another visit, and begged him to tell her in what way the impending troubles could be avoided.

"Do you see this?" asked the fortune teller, exhibiting a small tin box.

The visitor did.

"Very well; take it home and put all your jewellery inside—all your gold, then lock it up, and bring me the box to-morrow. I will 'charm' the box, and you'll get back all what you had lost in the last world."

The lady obeyed the order, and at the time appointed returned to the fortune-teller's with the box which by now contained over \$3,000 worth of valuables. She handed the box to the man, who requested her to be seated, and he retired to the rear of the house. He returned ten minutes later and placed the box on the table.

"Take it home now," he said. "I've done the charm. To-day is Tuesday, is it not? Well, on Friday open the box, and everything will be all right."

Friday came, but not without surprises. The box was opened, according to instructions, but all the lady's jewellery had disappeared. All that was in the box was rice. A visit to the fortune-teller's elicited the information that he had left for Macao several days ago. The police were then informed of the affair and, so it is reported, a woman informer was sent to lure the deceiver back to Hongkong. This she did very cleverly, indeed. She met the fortune teller in a street in the Portuguese colony, and engaged him in conversation. She told him that she had met the lady, who had had her fortune told the other day in Hongkong. She told him also that the lady wanted to see him; she had more jewellery to put into the box but was afraid to open it because she had forgotten his instructions. The fortune teller returned, and yesterday saw him in a room in the China Hotel, awaiting the arrival of his client. He was met by Detective Sergeant Appleton, who immediately placed him in custody. In the Police Court, this morning, he was charged with obtaining sixty-one pieces of jewellery under false pretences. This charge was denied. Mr. Leo d'Almeida, a Castro appeared for the prosecution, and the case was remanded.

THE Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the hospitals:

Telegrams.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

RUSSIA AND CHINA.

BRITISH AND AMERICAN MEDIATION.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."] Peking, 7th April.

The British and American Ministers in Peking are trying to bring about an amicable settlement (between the Russian authorities and Chinese) of the dispute (arising from the levying of municipal taxation) in Harbin.

H.E. TANG SHAO-YI.

HONOURED BY THE KAISER.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."] Peking, 7th April.

H.E. Tang Shao-yi, in a telegraphic message, reports that a German Order has been conferred upon him by H. I. M. the Kaiser. Imperial sanction has been granted the Special Envoy to wear the insignia of the Order.

JAPAN AND CHINA.

THE MANCHURIAN DIFFERENCES.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."] Peking, 7th April.

The Grand Council in a representation has urged the Japanese Government to withdraw the guards from the Fakumen Railway. The Japanese Consul at Fengtien has declined to comply with the Chinese representation.

FOREIGN NEGOTIATIONS.

REPORTS TO BE PUBLISHED.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."] Peking, 7th April.

The Waiwupu has decided that all negotiations with Foreign Powers, unless of a confidential character, will be published for the information of the people.

RAILWAY DISBURSEMENTS.

TO BE MADE IN DOLLARS.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."] Peking, 8th April.

The Ministries of Finance and of Posts and Communications have come to an arrangement that all receipts and payments in connection with railways will be made in dollars.

THE POSTAL DEPARTMENT.

HEAVY LOSS.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."] Peking, 8th April.

The losses of the Postal Department for last year are estimated at over 100,000 (p taels).

NAVAL REORGANISATION.

LARGE APPROPRIATIONS.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."] Peking, 8th April.

The Ministry of Finance has set aside Tls. 2,700,000 from the opium revenue towards the naval reorganisation scheme.

NA TUNG.

INQUIRIES BY THE REGENT.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."] Peking, 8th April.

The Prince Regent has directed Luk Chun-Lam to call on Na Tung and inquire after his health, and at the same time to convey him a message that he is expected to resume his duties after the period of one hundred days from the death of his mother has expired.

Telegrams.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

VICEROY OF YUNNAN.

HIS FAREWELL AUDIENCE.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 8th April.

H.E. Loi King-hei, Viceroy designate of Yunnan and Kweichow, is awaiting the arrival of Sik Liang at Peking (to-day) before having a farewell audience of the Prince Regent upon starting for his new post.

THE PRATAS ISLAND.

A VALUABLE POSSESSION.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 9th April.

A telegraphic despatch has been received from Viceroy Chang Jen-chun by the Grand Council reporting that Pratas Island is very rich in products and that during the two years' occupation by the Japanese they must have exported several million dollars' worth of produce.

TIBET.

ITS IMPECUNIOUS CONDITION.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 9th April.

The contemplated reforms in Tibet cannot be carried out for want of funds. The Grand Councilors, therefore, called upon the Senior Amban for a return of all the mines within the territory.

HANKOW-ICHANG RAILWAY.

JAPANESE ENGINEERS OFFERED

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 9th April.

Mr. Juin, the Japanese Minister in Peking, has asked Chang Chih-tung to engage Japanese engineers for the Hankow-Ichang Railway.

HAGUE CONFERENCE.

APPOINTMENT OF CHINESE.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 9th April.

The President of the Waiwupu has memorialized in person that, in view of the advent of the next Hague Conference, special officials should be appointed with instructions to prepare the various matters for discussion at the conference.

SABANG'S RIVAL.

EXTENSIVE HARBOUR SCHEME AT DELI. GOVERNMENT ACCOMMODATING TRADE.

The Netherlands India Government is taking steps to open a port for ocean-going ships in Deli, at Aru Bay, which is situated near the petroleum-yielding districts, and is admirably placed for shipment purposes. The Achene tramway and the Deli railway will be linked there, and the bay will be deepened at a spot suitable for a harbour. Dredging work is already being carried out in that quarter in the interests of the petroleum companies. The harbour scheme includes a jetty and godowns besides other facilities.

Trade is not easily diverted, and it will take time before Aru Bay becomes a centre of attraction. But, when once the railway, the tramway, and the harbour improvements are in working order, it is expected that the new port will draw the trade between Deli, Europe and India. There is little doubt that this shifting of the established business currents will seriously effect certain vested interests.

The port of Sabang will be the first to suffer, as the transshipment of Deli tobacco there for forwarding to Europe will stop. The steamers calling at Penang will also lose the cargoes from Deli now transhipped at that port, while several of the Dutch ships on the Genoa-Batavia run will be delayed for some hours through calling at Aru Bay.

The Deli Company points out that the losses falling upon vested interests mean gain to the colony, to which the possession of an ocean harbour is of the utmost importance, especially in the matter of calls by mailboats.

Deli is still a colony of vast commercial possibilities, and has a better claim to recognition as a mail port than "Polo" Way where Sabang has that privilege.

The head of the public works department in Java is shortly expected at Aru Bay to consider the improvements needed, and to form an estimate of the cost.

Dante the Magician.

CHARMING ENTERTAINMENT AT THE PHOENIX CLUB.

LADIES' NIGHT PROVE A HUGE SUCCESS.

Those who recollect seeing Carter in his wonderful exposition of the mystic art with which he delighted Hongkong audiences nearly a year ago, must have found an able rival in the person of Dante at the Phoenix Club on Saturday night. The performance was arranged for the delectation of members of the fair sex and no more fitting recompense could have been bestowed on the performer who was assisted by Mlle. Narelle, than the raising of fair eyebrows which was noticed throughout the evening and the unstinted applause from the dainty little hands which greeted the entertainer at the conclusion of each difficult and apparently impossible magical feat. A special feature of the entertainment was the highly artistic programmes printed on silk, which evoked the admiration of members and their friends. Machado's Spring Band was in attendance during the evening, and discoursed pleasant selections of music, which greatly enhanced the effect of the performance.

The performance opened with the customary address. The speaker's words had hardly taken effect when he forthwith set to work. An ordinary newspaper was held before the audience, which, as the performer remarked, contained nothing (?). It was then folded unobtrusively and the next movement saw the performer take out the familiar red, white and blue flag from inside the folds. "Dante's Miser's Dream" was a veritable marvel, in which the performer extracted silver dollars from apparently nothing—from flowers, leaves, air, nose, too—in fact anything that the performer laid his finger on appeared to be instantly transformed into solid, shining currency, as if by a magic touch. A startling sequel was reached when the bald head of a gentleman in the audience was turned into a temporary mint, naturally to the owner's great bewilderment. The somewhat hackneyed handkerchief trick was invested with peculiar interest in the hands of such a capable conjuror as Dante. For the purpose of this trick, a handkerchief was borrowed from one of the audience. It was subjected to a series of destructive experiments, preferably a huge rent in the middle, but was returned to the owner in the same sound condition as before. "Dante's Buffet or Magic Supper" completely mystified the audience. A well-laid table was created from paper and sundry other unobtainable articles and when a gentleman's hat was used for a frying-pan, an expression of dismay came over the face of the owner, which, however, was altered to one of relief on the hat being returned to him safe and sound. The last item in the first part of the programme were a series of shadowgraphy marvellously faithful to life, which, to use the performer's own words, was a "marvellous display of digital dexterity," when several phases of everyday occurrences in human and animal life were depicted on the screen solely by means of the performer's fingers. These included "Brer Rabbit," "Tom Cat," "Greyhound eating bone," "Elephant's Trunk," "Furious Bull-dog," "Swan pruning her Plumage," "The Fool," "Old Woman," etc. In addition to this, an amusing love story was thrown on the screen, in which the performer's head served for a fair dandy's house and the ear for the balcony, the principal actors being the father, the lover and a policeman. The novelty of the item was distinctly good, and evoked considerable merriment.

The second part of the programme was entirely devoted to an item described as "The Simla Seance." A sort of cabinet was placed in the middle of the stage with screens on the four sides. A committee of five gentlemen were selected from the audience in order to see that the proceedings were fair and square. The medium declared to the auditorium that his object was the absolute, total annihilation of time, and as far as the audience is concerned, the medium appeared to have strangely succeeded. The committee were individually invited to make sure that the medium's hands were securely bound and his feet fastened to a chair in a sitting position. The curtain was then drawn on the medium and a musical instrument in the shape of a conglomeration of bells passed over the top of the cabinet. No sooner was this done than the bells commenced to ring violently but the astonishment of a member of the committee can better be imagined than described when on quickly drawing aside the curtain, the medium was found sitting down as securely fastened as possible with a complacent smile illuminating his features, the bells at the same time mysteriously flying over the top on to a side of the stage. The above feat was repeated several times and each time the committee tried to feel satisfied by means of a minute examination of the medium that everything was above board, they felt more convinced than ever, the whole affair tending to bewilder them more and more. By way of more convincing proof that there was no deception, a coin was placed on the medium's hand, which was found as gingerly balanced as ever after the medium had apparently used his hands. The medium then filled his mouth with water, and the curtain once again hid him from view, a trumpet was passed in the usual manner over the top of the cabinet, when it immediately began to sound. The curtain instantly being drawn aside, the medium was seen as helpless as before, with his mouth full of water. The last and most difficult part of an undoubtedly clever performance was when a hat, pipe and coin were passed to the medium and on being exposed to view in a fraction of a minute, the hat was found on his head, the pipe in his mouth and the coin in his eye. The curtain once again concealed the medium, and in a shorter time than it would have taken a sergeant to shoot "Fort Four," the medium emerged from the cabinet—released from his fetters. It was unquestionably a clever and amusing piece of work, and the thorough appreciation of the audience was evinced by spontaneous applause.

The third and last part of the programme contained some excellent examples of legions. Among these was a watch trick, a Chinese "boy" kindly obliging with his help for the success of the trick. The worthy Celestial betrayed decided signs of nervousness, which, by the way, caused more amusement than the merits of the performance itself. During the progress of the trick, the "boy" was made to drop a watch, which consequently stopped and on being asked to pay the price of the article, it was clearly noticed that there was some doubt in his mind as to the genuineness of the demand. He was also accused of the theft of three similar articles and was highly amused to discover two of them dangling in front of his robe and the third one in the middle of his back. The "Inexhaustible Bottle" trick was one of the best given by the illustrious. By means of a single ordinary bottle, the conjuror supplied drinks which were as varied as they were numerous to a number of people in the auditorium. The bottle was then broken and "Heigh, presto! Adios adios!" asquing pig emerged from inside, which was the cause of considerable consternation among those who had previously helped themselves to the contents of the inexhaustible bottle. The animal was then put in a pistol and despatched through the air and the next time the audience saw it was from beneath the shirt of one of their number.

Altogether, a very enjoyable evening was spent, those present voting the performance a great success. Considering that opportunities to see really first-class conjurers in Hongkong are few and far between, a word of thanks is due to Mr. Dante and his able assistant for providing such a charming and refined entertainment.

CANTON DAY BY DAY.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 7th April.—On the 5th instant, a mass meeting of shareholders of the Canton-Hankow Railway Company was held in a large hall at Woegha for the purpose of electing a body of ten members to check the accounts of the Company. There were present about six hundred people, including Admiral Li Chun, the Provincial Treasurer Mr. Sequoy Lum, the Provincial Judge, the Taoist for the Development of Native Industries and several others. In anticipation of disturbances, a large detachment of Police was stationed near the meeting hall to keep guard. A list of 19 members nominated by the directors of the Company was submitted for election at the meeting but this was objected to by the majority of those present. After considerable discussion among the various parties of shareholders, the election was at last conducted by poll as a result of which ten members were selected. The officials have, however, been requested to draw up a set of regulations to control the elected members in their work. During the proceedings heated speeches were delivered by certain shareholders, and had there not been officials to superintend the meeting, disturbances would doubtless have taken place.

OUTBREAK OF PLAGUE.—Owing to the heavy and continuous rain in the early part of the spring, plague has broken out in the Ho Yuen district, Weichow, where several cases of the dread disease are reported to have occurred. The district magistrate (Li Hung Sau) has also fallen a victim to the disease. Great anxiety has been manifested by the inhabitants and many of them have consequently left their homes to seek temporary refuge elsewhere. The people now assign the outbreak to the influence of the Goddess of Plague and on the 3rd instant they carried a number of effigies of goddesses and walked round the place in order to drive out the evil spirits.

OUTLAWRY DUSY.—The officials of the Linchow and Kowchow prefectures have telegraphically reported to Canton that at present the outlaws there are very active in their depredations, especially in those districts along the coast, and that gunboats are urgently required there for patrol service. The Viceroy has given instructions to despatch the two Government gunboats *Hai On* and *Kwong Kem* to the infested district to suppress the bandits in co-operation with the local troops.

PENDING APPOINTMENTS.—Since the arrival here of the new Tartar General Tseng Chi, a rumour has been current in mandarin circles to the effect that H.E. Viceroy Chang Jen Chün will shortly be recalled to serve in the capital and that the Tartar General will be appointed to act as Acting Viceroy of the Two Kwang Provinces. So far as it is ascertained the rumour has not been confirmed, but there is every reason to believe that some changes may be effected in official circles. On the 3rd instant the Tartar General brought with him to Canton about a dozen officials of high rank, who will, no doubt, have to find suitable positions in the Canton Provincial Government.

PROPOSED RIVAL TO MACAO.—It has been reported that a new trade mart is about to be established in the district of Hengsheng at Kut Tai Wan. It is contemplated that this trade mart be styled the Hengsheng Chow City, and the 3rd day of the 3rd moon has been fixed for the formal celebration of the commencement of work for its development. Admiral Li Chun has granted the request of the promoters of the scheme to detail the gunboat *Kwong Ching* to be stationed there for protection purposes. This new city will doubtless become a rival of the Portuguese port of Macao.

ARREST OF RAILWAY DIRECTORS.—With reference to the arrests of a director of the Canton-Hankow Railway Company, and two others who were accused of having protested to the appointed name of the "Nine Charitable Institutions" against the appointment of Tania Wong Ping Yon as Resident Director General of the Canton-Hankow Railway and certain alleged corrupt practices, H.E. Viceroy Chang Tung has sent a letter to Canton instructing Admiral Li Chun to have the three persons detained as securely as possible in custody in order to prevent them from escaping to Hong Kong. Many of some other foreign consuls, at the same time the Viceroy has received orders from H.E. Viceroy Chang Tung to inquire carefully into the case as to whether the three persons could be punished in accordance with the law and to report the result.

COMMERCIAL.

WEEKLY SHARE REPORT.

Reviewing the share business for the week, Messrs. E. S. Kadoorie & Co. write on the 8th instant:—

To-morrow being Good Friday, we are issuing our circular a day earlier than usual. A fair investment business has been transacted during the week under review and prices for most stocks have been well maintained.

Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks have weakened slightly to \$915, at which rate sales have been effected, but at the close, buyers prevail. In London, a firmer feeling exists, and the price has risen to £86 10s.

Marine Insurances.—Cantons have been dealt in, in small lots, at \$187½, and there are more buyers. North China are wanted at \$1100. Underwriters are weaker and obtainable at \$845. There are buyers of Yangtzes at \$1100, but sellers are not forthcoming at the rate. Fire Insurances.—China Firms are offering at \$105. Hongkong Firms are stronger with inquiries at \$120.

Shipping.—China and Manilla, after sales at \$7, are required for at \$8, without including sellers. Douglases are wanted at \$35. Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboats have been sold during the week at \$49, \$10, \$35 and \$10, but at the close there are sellers at the latter rate. Indo-China continue in demand at \$40 and \$10 for the preferred and deferred shares respectively, but with the better prospects of shipping, holders are loath to sell at present. Shell Transport can be placed at the improved rate of 55%.

Refineries.—China Sugars have not fluctuated since we wrote last and are steady at \$137½, after sales. Luxons are on offer at \$17. From latest mail advices to hand, Perak Sugars are reported sold at \$126½.

Mining.—Chinese Engineerings are in favour at \$18, in the North. Rubis, after sales at \$8, are obtainable at \$74.

Docks, Wharves, and Godowns.—Kowloon Wharves have shown a further improvement on last week's quotation and have charged hands at \$51. Whampoa Docks have been sold at \$80. Shanghai Docks are easier with sellers at \$114. Hongkong Wharves have strengthened to \$166½, at which rate they can be had.

Lands, Hotels and Buildings.—Central Stores are in further demand and have found buyers at \$174. Hongkong Hotels have been booked at \$33, closing with further inquiries at \$34. Hongkong Lands have weakened to \$98, at which price business has been done. Humphreys Estates are on offer at \$84, but buyers can be found at a slightly lower rate. Shanghai Lands have changed hands at the improved rate of \$110.

Cotton Mills.—Hongkong Cottons can be secured at \$9. Ewos have further declined, and are on offer at \$118. According to latest mail advices from the North, changes in other Northern Mills are as follows:—International \$11.33 buyers. Lau Kuang Mow \$11.11. Soy Chee \$11.40 buyers.

Miscellaneous.—China Borees have been fixed at \$17.50 ex the dividend of \$1.20 per share paid on the 5th inst. Providers are offering at \$94. Dairy Farms have been sold, and more are wanted at \$144. Green Island Cements are slightly firmer, and after sales at \$18.50 ex the final dividend of 50 cents per share paid on the 5th inst., are in further demand. There are buyers of Hongkong Electric at the improved rate of \$194. Hongkong Ice have again weakened and can be got at \$170. William Powells and Watsons are, both in favour and inquired for at \$24 and \$20 respectively. Sumitras have risen to \$11.147½, closing in request. Langkats have sold at \$11.799.

Exchange.—The Bank's selling rate on London is 1/8½ on demand; The T/T rate on Shanghai is 7½.

Dividends Payable.—Yangtzes' Final of \$2 for 1907 and interim of \$3 for 1908, making in all \$5 per share for 1908, payable in Shanghai on the 7th April. Unions' Final of \$17 for 1907 and interim of \$30 for 1908, making in all \$47 per share payable on the 31st April.

Forward Settlements.—The following dates have been fixed by the Stockbrokers' Association of Hongkong for forward Settlements:—

April	Settlement	19th April
May	"	31st May
June	"	29th June
July	"	30th July
August	"	30th August
September	"	29th September

SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board will be held on Tuesday next, at 2:45 p.m. Following are the orders of the day:—

Mr. Shelton Hooper, pursuant to notice, will move the following resolution:—"That as the new Cemetery Bye-laws prohibit the burning of joss sticks and firing of crackers in the Colonial Cemetery it is desirable for the Government to select a new site and authorise a cemetery for the interment of bodies of persons of the Buddhist faith where it may be lawful for the practice of a 3rd rites and ceremonies."

Letter from Government relative to the appointment of Mr. Bowen-Rowlands, Principal Clerk, to act as Secretary to the Board.

Letter from Government relative to the appointment of Mr. Ho Kom Tong to be a member of the Sanitary Board in succession to Mr. Yung Wa Chün.

Letter from Government forwarding copy of a bill amending the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance.

Reply from Government relative to the erection of two water closets at New Kowloon Marine Lot No. 5.

Minutes by the Medical Officer of Health relative to certain diseases remaining to be dealt with under Section 275 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance 1903-1904.

Proposed Estimates for the Sanitary Department for the year 1909.

Application for permission to erect an iron gate at the entrance to the new site of the Sanitary Board, at New Kowloon.

To-day's Advertisements.

HONGKONG & WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY LIMITED.

NOTICE.

M. T. I. ROSE having resigned the position of Secretary, Mr. G. A. CALDWELL has been appointed ACTING SECRETARY from this date.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
H. P. WHITE,
Acting Chairman.
Hongkong, 10th April, 1909.

LUSITANO RECREATION CLUB.

ATHLETIC SPORTS.

UNDER the Distinguished Patronage of His Excellency Sir FREDERICK J. D. LUGARD, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O., The Committee have much pleasure in inviting the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Colony to their SPORTS at the Race Course (by kind permission of the Stewards of the Hongkong Jockey Club) on **EASTER MONDAY**, 12th instant, commencing at 12.30 p.m.

There will be two open events:—
Half Mile Flat Race open to European Sailors, Soldiers and Police. 5.15 p.m. Free.
220 Yards Championship open to all BONA FIDE Amateurs in the Colony under the rules of the A.A.A. 3.45 p.m. Entrance \$1.

By courtesy of the Management there will be Special Tram Cars running every 5 minutes between 12.15 p.m. and 2 p.m. as well as on the return journey.

F. M. REMEDIOS,
Hon. Secretary.

Hongkong, 10th April, 1909.

L.R.A.

THE ANNUAL PRIZE MEETING of the Ladies Rifle Association will be held at the Range at Bowen Road on **WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY and FRIDAY, April 14th, 15th and 16th.**

The Prizes will be presented at the Ladies Recreation Club on **FRIDAY, 16th, at 5 P.M.**

M. BAILEY,
Hon. Secretary.

Hongkong, 10th April, 1909.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.

THE Steamship

"CATHERINE APCAR" having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods will be delivered from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the Vessel will be landed at once, at Consignees' risk and expense.

Cargo remaining on board after 4 P.M., of the 15th inst., will be landed at Consignees' risk and expense.

Consignees of Cargo from SINGAPORE and PENANG are requested to take IMMEDIATE DELIVERY of their Goods from alongside, such Cargo impeding the discharge of the vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

No Fire Insurance has been effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Undersigned.

DAVID SASSOON & Co., LIMITED,
Agents.
Hongkong, 10th April, 1909.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamer

"PERA,"

FROM ANTWERP, LONDON, MALTA, PORT SAID, SUEZ AND STRAITS.

Consignees of Cargo by the above-named vessel are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and placed at their risk in the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's Godowns at Kowloon, where each consignment will be sorted out mark by mark, and delivery can be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

Optional Goods will be landed here unless instructions are given to the contrary before 6 hours.

Goods not cleared by the 15th inst. at 4 P.M. will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by me in any case whatever.

Damaged Packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignee's and the Company's representative at an appointed hour.

All claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here after which date they cannot be recognised.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the Godowns.

E. A. HEWETT,
Superintendent.

Hongkong, 9th April, 1909.

REGULAR STEAMSHIP SERVICE TO NEW YORK.

VIA PORTS AND SUEZ CANAL.

(With Liberty to Call at Malabar Coast.)

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG

FOR BOSTON & NEW YORK.

S.S. "DACE CASTLE" About 20th April.

FOR NEW YORK ONLY.

S.S. "SATSUMA" About 20th May.

For Freight and further information, apply to

DODWELL & Co., LIMITED,

Agents.

Hongkong, 10th April, 1909.

The Manila *Cable News* of 6th inst. says:—Colonel "Bob" Love, the popular manager of Harrold's Circus, now in Manila, was taken to San Lazaro Hospital yesterday morning suffering from an attack of small-pox. Colonel Love was stricken with the dread disease during the night, and as soon as its nature was ascertained was immediately taken to San Lazaro. At a late hour last night he was resting easily but it will be several days before it is definitely known whether the attack is a virulent one or simply superficial. Colonel Love was recently successfully vaccinated, and this will be of material assistance to him in his fight against the deadly virus which has laid low his many friends sympathizing with him and all eagerly wish the speedy recovery.

Public Companies.

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

NOTICE is hereby given that the THIRTY-SIXTH ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING of the Society will be held at its Head Office, No. 2 Queen's Buildings, Hongkong, on **WEDNESDAY, the 31st April, 1909, at Noon**, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors, together with Statements of Accounts, to 31st December, 1908, and of declaring dividends, &c.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Society will be CLOSED from 11th April to the 31st April, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board,
C. MONTAGUE EDE,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 24th March, 1909.

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

NOTICE is hereby given that an EXTRA-ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Society will be held at its Head Office, No. 2 Queen's Buildings, Victoria, Hongkong, on **WEDNESDAY, the 31st April, 1909, at 12.15 P.M.** for the purpose of considering and, if thought fit, passing the following Special Resolution:—

"That the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Society be respectively extended, altered and amended so as to read as shown in the print signed for the purpose of identification by the Chairman of this Meeting and that such extended, altered and amended Memorandum and Articles of Association be henceforth adopted as the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Society to the exclusion of those heretofore prevailing."

Should the above Special Resolution be duly passed, it will be subsequently submitted for confirmation to a further Extraordinary General Meeting, of which Notice will be hereafter given.

Prints of the proposed Memorandum and Articles of Association can be seen at the Society's Offices or obtained on application there.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
C. MONTAGUE EDE,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 7th April, 1909.

THE CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

NOTICE is hereby given that the FORTY-THIRD ORDINARY MEETING of the Company will be held at its Head Office, No. 2 Queen's Buildings, Hongkong, on **WEDNESDAY, the 31st April, 1909, at 12.30 P.M.** for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors, together with Statement of Accounts to the 31st December, 1908, and of declaring Dividends.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 7th April to the 31st April, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
C. MONTAGUE EDE,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 26th March, 1909.

THE CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

NOTICE is hereby given that an EXTRA-ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Company will be held at its Head Office, No. 2 Queen's Buildings, Victoria, Hongkong, on **WEDNESDAY, the 31st April, 1909, at 12.45 P.M.** for the purpose of considering and, if thought fit, passing the following Special Resolution:—

"That the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company be respectively extended, altered and amended so as to read as shown in the print signed for the purpose of identification by the Chairman of this Meeting and that such extended, altered and amended Memorandum and Articles of Association be henceforth adopted as the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company to the exclusion of those heretofore prevailing."

Should the above Special Resolution be duly passed, it will be subsequently submitted for confirmation to a further Extraordinary General Meeting, of which Notice will be hereafter given.

SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Supplied by Messrs. E. S. KADOORIS & Co. Corrected to noon; later alterations given under "Commercial Intelligence" page 5.

STOCKS	NO. OF SHARES	VALUE	PAID UP	POSITION AS PER LAST REPORT	AT WORKING ACCOUNT	LAST DIVIDEND	APPROPRIATE PERCENT QUOTATIONS BASED ON LAST YEAR'S DIV.	CLOSING QUOTATIONS
BANKS.								
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	120,000	\$125	\$125	{ \$1,500,000 \$1,500,000 \$1,500,000	\$2,000,251	{ Final of 2s and bonus of 5/- for 1908 @ ex 1/8 = \$26.024	5 1/2	{ \$915 buyers London \$26.10
National Bank of China, Limited	99,975	£7	£6	{ £4,000 £10,000 £10,000	\$10,223	2s (London 3/6) for 1903	...	\$51
MARINE INSURANCES.								
Canton Insurance Office, Limited	10,000	\$250	\$50	{ \$1,500,000 \$235,757 \$211,900	none	\$14 for 1907	7 1/2	\$187 1/2 sal
North China Insurance Company, Limited	10,000	£15	£5	{ Tls. 150,000 Tls. 30,747 Tls. 114,277	Tls. 160,512	Final of 7/6 making 15/- for 1907	5 1/2	Tls. 100 buyers
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited	12,400	\$250	\$100	{ \$2,000,000 \$274,478 \$189,595	\$2,506,011	{ Final of 5/- making 24/- for 1908 and interim of 5/- for 1907	5 1/2	\$845 sellers
Yangtze Insurance Association, Limited	12,000	\$100	\$60	{ \$1,000,000 \$100,032 \$85,157	\$91,703	\$12 and bonus 2/- for 1906	7 1/2	\$225 buyers
FIRE INSURANCES.								
China Fire Insurance Company, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$20	{ \$1,000,000 \$418,618 \$18,802	\$375,341	\$6 and bonus 5/- for 1907	7 1/2	\$105 sellers
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited	5,000	\$250	\$50	{ \$1,000,000 \$1,418,773	\$368,711	\$27 for 1907	8 1/2	\$320 buyers
SHIPPING.								
China and Manila Steamship Company, Limited	30,000	\$25	\$25	{ \$7,000 \$254,638	\$7,015	\$1 for 1906	...	\$8 sal. and b.
Douglas Steamship Company, Limited	20,000	\$50	\$50	{ \$100,000 \$100,000 \$100,000	NIL	\$2 1/2 for year ending 30.6.1908	7 1/2	\$35 buyers
Hongkong, Canton, & Macao Steamboat Co., Ltd.	80,000	\$15	\$15	{ \$100,000 \$107,320 \$70,423	\$20,279	Final of 5/- making 2 1/2 for 1908	8 1/2	\$20 1/2 sellers
Iodo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ltd. (Preferred)	60,000	£5	£5	{ £10,000 £10,000 £10,000	£23,755	{ 6/- for 1907 on Preference shares only @ ex 1/10 = \$3.154	5 1/2	{ \$40 buyers £20 buyers
Iodo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ltd. (Deferred)	60,000	£5	£5	{ £10,000 £10,000 £10,000	£23,755	{ 6/- for 1907 on Preference shares only @ ex 1/10 = \$3.154	5 1/2	{ \$40 buyers £20 buyers
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	200,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 75,000 Tls. 75,000 Tls. 75,000	Tls. 14,510	Final of Tls. 2 1/2 making Tls. 3 1/2 for 1908	7 1/2	{ Tls. 50 buyers Tls. 52 buyers
"Shell" Transport and Trading Company, Limited	1,000,000	£1	£1	{ £1,000,000 £1,000,000 £1,000,000	£63,817	Second interim of 1/- for a/c 1908	...	55.6 buyers
"Star" Ferry Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$5	{ \$10,000 \$10,000 \$10,000	\$08	{ \$1.00 \$0.50 for year ending 10.4.1908	{ 4 1/2 3 1/2	{ \$23 \$15
Taku Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	30,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 44,140 Tls. 44,140 Tls. 44,140	Tls. 2,215	Final of Tls. 1 1/2 making Tls. 2 1/2 for 1908	11 1/2	Tls. 45 sales
REFINERIES.								
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited	20,000	\$100	\$100	{ \$150,000 \$150,000 \$150,000	Dr. \$51.58	\$5 for year ending 31.12.08	3 1/2	\$137 1/2 sellers
Luzon Sugar Refining Company, Limited	7,000	\$100	\$100	{ \$100,000 \$100,000 \$100,000	Dr. \$23.83	\$5 for year ending 31.12.08	...	Tls. 126 1/2 sales
Perak Sugar Cultivation Company, Limited	7,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 100,000 Tls. 100,000 Tls. 100,000	Tls. 0.273	Tls. 3 1/2 for year ending 31.12.08	...	...
Mining.								
Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Ltd.	1,000,000	£1	£1	{ £175,000 £175,000 £175,000	£1,556	{ Final of 1/6 (coupon No. 11) for year end- ing 30.2.08	7 1/2	Tls. 18 buyers
Rub Australian Gold Mining Company, Limited	150,000	£1	£1	{ £150,000 £150,000 £150,000	Dr. £4.191	No. 12 of 1/- = 48	...	\$8 sales
DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.								
Fenwick (Geo.) & Co., Limited	18,000	\$25	\$25	{ \$12,000 \$12,000 \$12,000	Dr. \$7.411	\$1.75 for year ending 31.12.08	...	\$12
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd.	60,000	\$50	\$50	{ \$50,000 \$50,000 \$50,000	\$50,102	Final of 5/- making 5 1/2 for 1907	...	\$51 sales
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Ltd.	50,000	\$50	\$50	{ \$50,000 \$50,000 \$50,000	\$50,102	Final of 5/- making 5 1/2 for 1907	...	\$51 sales
Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd.	55,700	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ Tls. 1,000,000 Tls. 1,000,000 Tls. 1,000,000	Tls. 23,742	Final of 5/- making 5 1/2 for 1907	10 1/2	\$80 buyers
Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company, Limited	36,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ Tls. 600,000 Tls. 600,000 Tls. 600,000	Tls. 22,818	Final of Tls. 6 making Tls. 10 for 1908	6 1/2	Tls. 165 1/2 sellers
LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.								
Anglo-French Land Investment Co., Ltd.	25,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ Tls. 25,000 Tls. 25,000 Tls. 25,000	Tls. 6,551	Tls. 6 for 1907	7 1/2	Tls. 103 1/2 buyers
Astor House Hotel Company, Limited (Shanghai)	30,000	\$25	\$25	{ \$25,000 \$25,000 \$25,000	Dr. \$1.230	\$2 1/2 for year ending 30.6.07	...	\$20 buyers
Central Stores, Limited	50,123	\$15	\$15	{ \$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	\$1,419	\$1.21 on old and 60 cents on first new issue	...	\$17 1/2 sales
Hongkong Hotel Company, Limited	12,000	\$50	\$50	{ \$12,000 \$12,000 \$12,000	\$12,000	Final of 1/2 making 5 1/2 for 1908	7 1/2	\$81 buyers
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ltd.	50,000	\$100	\$100	{ \$50,000 \$50,000 \$50,000	\$50,000	Final of 5/- making 5 1/2 for 1908	7 1/2	\$93 sales
Humphreys Estate & Finance Company, Limited	150,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$150,000 \$150,000 \$150,000	\$15,000	\$5 cents for 1908	7 1/2	\$81
Kowloon Land and Building Company, Limited	6,000	\$50	\$50	{ \$6,000 \$6,000 \$6,000	\$6,000	\$14 for 1908	5 1/2	\$30
Shanghai Land Investment Company, Limited	78,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 1,235,045 Tls. 1,235,045 Tls. 1,235,045	Tls. 142,404	Final of Tls. 3 and bonus of Tls. 2 making Tls. 8 for 1908	7 1/2	Tls. 118 sales
West Point Building Company, Limited	12,500	\$50	\$50	{ \$12,500 \$12,500 \$12,500	\$12,500	Final of 5/- making 5 1/2 for 1908	0 1/2	\$44 sellers
COTTON MILLS.								
Kwo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, Ltd.	15,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 150,000 Tls. 150,000 Tls. 150,000	Tls. 8,820	Tls. 5 for year ending 31.10.1908	4 1/2	Tls. 118 sellers
Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving & Dyeing Company, Limited	125,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$125,000 \$125,000 \$125,000	\$12,500	50 cents for year ending 31.7.08	5 1/2	\$9 sellers
International Cotton Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	10,000	Tls. 75	Tls. 75	{ Tls. 175,000 Tls. 175,000 Tls. 175,000	Tls. 8,372	Tls. 6 for year ending 30.9.08 (8 1/2)	...	Tls. 93 1/2 buyers
Laon-kung-mow Cotton Spinning & Weaving Co., Ltd.	8,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ Tls. 800,000 Tls. 800,000 Tls. 800,000	Tls. 4,209	Tls. 4 for 1908	...	Tls. 111
Boy Gao Cotton Spinning Company, Limited	7,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ Tls. 700,000 Tls. 700,000 Tls. 700,000	Tls. 15,911	Tls. 50 for 1906	...	Tls. 400 buyers
MISCELLANEOUS.								
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Limited	8,504	12/6	12/6	{ £1,500 £1,500 £1,500	£648	1/100 per share of 1907 = \$1.037	10 1/2	\$10 sales
China-Borneo Company, Limited	60,000	\$12	\$12	{ \$60,000 \$60,000 \$60,000	NIL	\$1.20 for 1908	10 1/2	\$11.30 sal. ex d.
China Light and Power Company, Limited	50,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$50,000 \$50,000 \$50,000	\$1,138	60 cents for year ending 28.2.06	...	\$9 1/2 sales
China Provident Loan & Mortgage Company, Ltd.	125,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$125,000 \$125,000 \$125,000	\$12,500	80 cents for 1908	...	\$14 buyers
Dairy Farm Company, Limited	40,000	\$7 1/2	\$6	{ \$40,000 \$40,000 \$40,000	\$4,000	\$1.30 for year ending 31.7.08	5 1/2	\$8.90 s. ex div.
Green Island Cement Company, Limited	400,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$400,000 \$400,000 \$400,000	\$40,000	Final of 5/- making 5 1/2 for 1908	10 1/2	\$12
H. Price & Company, Limited	12,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$12,000 \$12,000 \$12,000	\$12,000	75 cents for 9 months ending 31.12.07	...	\$24 sales
Hall & Holt, Limited	21,000	\$20	\$20	{ \$21,000 \$21,000 \$21,000	\$21,000	\$2 for year ending 28.2.08	10 1/2	\$19 buyers
Hongkong Electric Company, Limited	60,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$60,000 \$60,000 \$60,000	\$6,000	\$1 and bonus 20 cts. for year ending 29.2.08	6 1/2	\$170 sellers
Hongkong Ice Company, Limited	5,000	\$25	\$25	{ \$5,000 \$5,000 \$5,000	\$5,000	Final of 5/- per share making 5/- for 1908	9 1/2	\$24
Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	50,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$50,000 \$50,000 \$50,000	\$5,000	Final of 5/- per share making 5/- for 1908	...	Tls. 79 1/2 sales
Manichappi tot Mij, Bosch en Landbouwer- plaat in Langkat, Limited	25,000	Ga. 100	Ga. 100	{ Tls. 50,000 Tls. 50,000 Tls. 50,000	Tls. 16,612	{ 1st Quarterly div. of Tls. 12 1/2 for account 1909	6 1/2	\$12
Pak Tramways Company, Limited	25,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$25,000 \$25,000 \$25,000	\$2,500	60 cents on fully paid shares and 6 cents on \$1 paid shares for year ending 30.4.08	6 1/2	\$8
Pak Tramways Company (new)	50,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$50,000 \$50,000 \$50,000	\$5,000	60 cents on fully paid shares and 6 cents on \$1 paid shares for year ending 30.4.08	6 1/2	\$8
Phillips Company, Limited	75,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$75,000 \$75,000 \$75,000	\$7,500	60 cents on fully paid shares and 6 cents on \$1 paid shares for year ending 30.4.08	6 1/2	\$8
Shanghai Gas Company, Limited	84,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 100,000 Tls. 100,000 Tls. 100,000	Tls. 18,640	None	...	Tls. 112 buyers
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Company, Limited	30,000	Tls. 20	Tls. 20	{ Tls. 24,000 Tls. 24,000 Tls. 24,000	Tls. 6,000	Final of Tls. 4 making Tls. 7 1/2 for 1907	6 1/2	Tls. 147 1/2 buyers
Shanghai Waterworks Company, Limited	16,350	£40	£20	{ Tls. 190,000 Tls. 190,000 Tls. 190,000	Tls. 5,250	Final of Tls. 5 making Tls. 8 for 1908	5 1/2	Tls. 457 1/2 sales
South China Morning Post, Limited	5,000	\$5	\$5	{ \$5,000 \$5,000 \$5,000	Dr. \$16,632	Final of 27/8 making 28/6 for 1907	...	\$24
Steam Laundry Company, Limited	20,000	\$5	\$5	{ \$20,000 \$20,000 \$20,000	\$2,000	40 cents for year ending 31.5.08	7 1/2	Tls. 94 buyers
Tientsin Waterworks Company, Limited	2,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ Tls. 200,000 Tls. 200,000 Tls. 200,000	Tls. 20,000	Tls. 6 1/2 for year ending 30.4.07	5 1/2	\$13 buyers
Union Waterworks Company, Limited	50,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$50,000 \$50,000 \$50,000	\$5,000	60 cents for year ending 31.12.08	...	\$9 buyers
United Asbestos Oriental Agency, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$10,000 \$10,000 \$10,000	\$1,000	60 cents on 1,000,000 shares and 1/100 on 100 Founders shares for yr. end. 31.5.07	6 1/2	\$9 buyers
Watson, (A. S.) & Co., Limited	90,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$90,000 \$90,000 \$90,000	\$9,000	Final of 50 cents a/c 1908	6 1/2	\$9 buyers
William Powell, Limited	15,000	\$7	\$7	{ \$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	\$1,500	Final of 50 cts. making 80 cts. for the year ended 30th June, 1906	...	\$24 1/2

* These shares are entitled to half of the profits

DIVIDENDS PAYABLE:

Yangtze Insurance Association Limited	\$15	April 17th
Union Insurance Society	\$17	21st

Intimation.

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HONG KONG, 20th September, 1908.

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CANTON-KOWLOON RAILWAY.

AN HISTORIC EVENT.

LAYING OF THE FOUNDATION STONE OF STATION BUILDING.

FELICITOUS SPEECHES BY T.E. THE VICEROY OF CANTON AND THE GOVERNOR OF HONGKONG.

[From Our Special Representative.]

Shameen, 11 April, 1900.

"We can run trains for through traffic with the British section on or before July 1st, 1917," such was the gratifying statement made by the Engineer-in-Chief of the Canton-Kowloon Railway (Imperial Chinese section), Mr. F. Grove, at the historic luncheon at Tai-shan-tau, Canton, today. The occasion was the commemoration of the laying of the foundation stone of the station building by His Excellency Viceroy Chang Jen-chun, of the two Kwang provinces. To attend the function, which will have a prominent place in the history of the Chinese Empire and of the Southern Provinces in particular, the leading civil, military and naval officials of the sister provinces were invited. The entire Consular body resident in Shameen, the railway officials, Chinese Customs authorities, representative foreign merchants, and the British and Chinese Press of Hongkong also received invitations. Appropriately enough the Governor of Hongkong, Sir Frederick Lugard, and his staff, were present in person. Early in the morning the steam tender *Stanley* (Capt. G. Willoughby) conveying the Governor and party from Hongkong arrived. They were met by Mr. H. H. Fox, British Consul-General at Canton.

Off the Shameen Bund, the *Petrel*, the Railway Company's motor house-boat, was dressed for the occasion. Several private launches also displayed bunting lavishly. Shortly after ten o'clock, the arrival of Mr. F. Grove, the Engineer-in-Chief, and his technical staff, signalled the hour of departure for the scene of the day's activities. The guests had all just previously assembled at the landing-steps and on the invitation of Mr. Grove boarded the *Petrel* for Tai-shan-tau. The *Petrel* was taken in tow by a launch and within twenty minutes of the start was safely made fast to the jetty off the new bunding of the future railway terminus. The official parties followed in other house-boats and launches. On the journey down river, as the *Petrel*, in her galley, passed the Chinese cutter *Chien*, which was under way, the sailors of the patrol vessel lined the deck and stood to attention. The courtesy was responded to by the civilians on the *Petrel* who acknowledged the compliment with "Hats off!"

Upon landing at Tai-shan-tau, the party was received with a guard of honour, who lined the road from the jetty to the mammoth pavilion in single files. The guard was composed of Chinese "braves" and members of the police all uniformed in foreign style with peaked caps which ill-suited the apparently raw recruits.

To keep back the crowd of natives—men, women and children—bamboo fences were erected giving a clear road all the way to the reception hall. Flags and bunting, crimson predominating in the variegated colours of the decorations consisted, lent additional "life" to the animated scene which the surroundings presented. The office of the District Engineer, Mr. Moore, was converted into a reception hall, suitable appointments in Chinese design constituting the main part of the building. The Viceroy and his suite, accompanied by a large number of Chinese body-guard of armed soldiers, preceded whom were two standard bearers who carried two huge dragon flags of imperial yellow. Just as the procession led off to Tung-shan an amusing incident occurred at the entrance to the grounds of the reception hall. A wordy conflict between two members of the soldiery and the water police threatened to assume a somewhat serious aspect when one of the combatants screamed out: "Tai Tai!" which served as a rallying point for his party to raise a carrying pole. Whistles soon summoned the soldiers to the scene of the undignified scramble and what the outcome of the fight was none concerned themselves as the visitors were soon on the march to Tung-shan. Tung-shan is a little over a mile from Tai-shan-tau, the journey was negotiated under not too favourable conditions with the road made of soft earth over the railway embankment and across cuttings through the hillocks intervening between the two points. The features of interest in Tung-shan were the completed quarters for the railway engineers and staff. Four houses have been completely finished and two others are in course of completion. They are intended for Mr. Engineer-in-Chief, district engineer, accounts, and the assistants. There are several acres of land around the buildings which are easily accessible by land and water. The place is well laid out with a drainage system, and has proper paths, and an avenue planted with trees. Prosperous villages surround the railway quarters within a half-mile radius, while imposing missionary buildings and schools have been erected within close distance of the engineers' quarters. The houses have been designed by, and built under the supervision of, Messrs. Purnell and Paget, architects.

As the inspection of the buildings, the return journey was made to Tai-shan-tau where the party arrived shortly before a p.m.

LAYING OF THE FOUNDATION STONE.
The Viceroy, Governor Lugard and other officials took a position on the platform set apart for them. The stone was enclosed in a wooden frame. When the party had assembled, H.E. Wei Han, presenting a silver trowel to the Viceroy, requested His Excellency to lay the stone.

Complying, Viceroy Chang with the trowel spread some cement mortar on the south-western corner of the main wall built in brick, and slowly the stone was lowered into position. Whereupon the Viceroy declared the stone "well and truly laid." Assisting in laying the stone was Mr. W. G. Moore, district engineer, who acted as general supervisor, and assistant engineers Keay and Thompson.

His Excellency's speech was then read in Chinese. It dwelt on the advantages which the completion of the line would accrue to the province.

On the call of Mr. Grove, three cheers and a "tiger" were given for Viceroy Chang.

The inscription on the stone reads—

Canton-Kowloon Railway
Imperial Chinese Section
This Stone
was well and truly laid by
His Excellency
Viceroy Chang Jen-chun
April 7th, 1900.
Purnell & Paget,
Architects.

The letters were engraved in gold. On the other side of the stone was the Chinese rendering of the English inscription. In a cavity in the stone was deposited a brass box containing eight Chinese newspapers of today's date, a copy each of the *London Weekly Times*, the *Punch*, and the *South China Morning Post*, besides Bank notes of \$5, and \$1 denominations of the Kwangtung Government, and coins of one, half-dollar, and twenty, ten and five pieces of the Provincial mints. Copper subsidiary coins were also deposited.

The inscription on the silver trowel reads as follows—

Presented to His Excellency Viceroy Chang Jen-chun on the occasion of the laying of the foundation stone of the Canton-Kowloon Railway, April 7th, 1900.

THE BUILDING DESCRIBED.

By courtesy of Messrs. Purnell and Paget, architect, the *Telegraph* representative was favoured with an examination of the plan and elevations of the building. It is to be a three-storied structure, built in concrete and brick. The brick will be of the glazed pattern and are manufactured by the Government tile and cement works in Hsiaman. The site of the station being all soft ground piling will have to be resorted to to secure a good foundation. (The dimensions of the building are: 170 feet long by 60 feet wide.) In designing the structure, the architect has taken great care to give a strictly plain elevation suitable to a railway station building. Without any superfluous architectural embellishments it will have Doric columns made in the new Kwangtung red bricks. The exterior appearance will thus possess an effect somewhat after the style of the new erections for the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs which can be seen from the steamer. As no proceeds up river to Canton. To say that the construction will be carried out in a strictly modern line, is to be too true. What is so well known as all buildings built under the supervision of this notable firm of architects. Reinforced concrete will be almost exclusively employed in floors, walls, columns, roofs and partitions, while the covering to the floors will be of glazed tile, partly of local manufacture and partly imported from abroad.

The ground floor will have a vestibule or main entrance of 60 ft. by 40 ft. It runs through the main building on to a platform thirty feet wide. Opening out from the vestibule will be the booking or ticket office, also offices for the station master and travelling managers, and assistants. Two halls lead up to the offices and railway department on the floor above. A special feature of the upper floor is that the noise inseparable from the working of the department below will not be heard overhead. The rooms on the first floor are identical with those beneath; there is one for the traffic manager and three traffic offices with a parcels office measuring 40 ft. by 20 ft. The main building is 170 ft. long, and contains a waiting room and lavatory, accommodation complete the apartments of this floor.

Provision has been made on the uppermost floor for offices for the managing director, secretary, secretary's clerk, chief engineer and his clerks, maintenance engineer and his clerks and general drafting and drawing offices. There will be a large central hall with an iron staircase. Inquiry offices, lavatory accommodation, a room for archives have been thought of and are provided for. There will also be a large dining room and kitchen for assistants, besides printing rooms and wash rooms. A large light well is located in the centre.

Two sets of staircases have been designed and two each will be finished in iron and concrete, respectively. The roofs will be flat and are to be of concrete covered with reinforced asphalt waterproofing. An iron lattice will be fixed round the roof which can be utilized for promoting. With the exception of the joistery for which Burmah teakwood will be employed throughout, the building is absolutely fire-proof. The windows will be glazed with plate and Marseilles glass. In two different kinds. The building will contain its own water-supply and will be lighted by electricity. The large area for the main hall and platform will also be lit by electricity. Great care has been taken for the adequate ventilation of the building. To get an idea of the designers' thoughtfulness in this respect it need only be mentioned that the height of the ground floor is 17 ft. from floor to ceiling.

Necessary wrought iron fences, gateways and barriers have been arranged for.

As already stated, Messrs. Purnell and Paget are the architects who have given to the completion of the Canton-Kowloon Railway, the laying of the foundation stone for the station building of the Imperial Chinese section of the Canton-Kowloon Railway.

"After the laying of the foundation stone, the party adjourned to the Special accommodation have been provided for this interesting part of the day's functions under a mammoth canvas covering the entrance of the future station building. The stone was changed to a horse-shoe form. The interior of the match was profusely decorated with bunting and the flags of all the nations represented by the consular officials in Canton all of whom were invited and took part in the ceremony. Flanking the seats set apart for the Viceroy and the Governor of Hongkong were the dragon flag and the Union Jack. At the head of the table sat His Excellency Viceroy Chang Jen-chun on his right sat His Excellency Sir Frederick Lugard, on his left sat the Governor of Hongkong, Mr. Leo Bergholtz, U.S. Consul-General, Mr. Rao, the Provincial Treasurer, Mr. Foster, the Consul-General for Portugal, in Canton, and Doyes, of the Consular Body, was allotted a seat to the right of Sir Frederick. 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ANNUAL MEETING

CHINA'S MONUMENTS.
VANDALISM AT THE MING TOMBS.
NANKING.

IN DARKEST TIMOR.

SENSATIONAL EXPOSURE IN OFFICIAL
REPORT.

THE CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP CO. LD.

ANNUAL MEETING

THE INTERNATIONAL OPIUM COMMISSION

THE "TIMES" LEADER

MANCHUS AND CHINESE

MANCHURIA.

subject was also dealt with by Major Jackson, Captain Smith, Captain Blissett and Dr. Rodriguez. Dr. Tarkenton, his Medical Officer, the Matungo Asylum, described certain cases which had been selected for treatment with X-Rays. One of the 12 cases which had been originally selected for treatment with X-Rays of leishmaniasis disease, had been cured. The following improvement had been observed: "normalization of the spleen size; no enlargement of the liver; normal blood counts; normal hemoglobin; normal leukocytes; normal erythrocytes."

No comment.

"San Cheung" Disabled.

BEACHED AT CASTLE PEAK BAY.

PASSENGERS BROUGHT ON TO HONGKONG.

News was received in the Colony at an early hour this morning of a serious accident that had befallen the river passenger steamer, *San Cheung*, trading between this port and Canton. Without undue loss of time a salvage party was organized and promptly dispatched to the assistance of the crippled vessel as she lies on a sandy bottom in Castle Peak Bay.

As is usual in such circumstances, Dame Rumour has been particularly active and the first news which obtained currency in the Colony to-day, especially in Chinese circles, was to the effect that the familiar steamer had foundered in deep water after striking a rock with a calamitous loss of life in men, women and children. Being promptly checked, however, the added colour to the graphic description of the alleged catastrophe, the irresponsible gossipers were also responsible for the report that the Tung Wa Hospital directors had despatched launches to the scene of the reported disaster in order to assist in the recovery of dead bodies.

THE REAL FACTS of the case, however, were gathered by a *Telegraph* representative, who from official and other sources has been able to disprove the alleged correct reports circulated with so much semblance of veracity in the foreign to-day. When the *San Cheung* was seen, he stated that the first news he had had of any mishap to the *San Cheung* was from our representative. He had not heard of it and so far as the Tung Wa authorities were concerned he could say that they had received no communication asking for assistance and concluded that no lives could have been lost. The conclusion was, happily, subsequently borne out.

"HOI TUNG" LO-THE RESCUE. The official report brought to Hongkong of the accident to the *San Cheung* was that made by Capt. Alf. Broadbridge, of the *Ho Tung*, owned by Messrs. Chee Wo & Co. Skipper Broadbridge was piloting his vessel into Hongkong early this morning on a voyage from Kowloon to the West River. At thirty minutes past midnight in a position two miles west of Pillar Point, the fateful scene of the foundering of the *San Cheung* in the memorable typhoon of July, 1908, he observed the *San Cheung* of the Canton trade aground, and asking for assistance, Captain Broadbridge promptly shaped a course in the direction of the disabled vessel. He brought his own steamer close up to the *San Cheung*. Soon communication was established with Capt. McGinty of the latter vessel from whom he learned of the *San Cheung's* unfortunate plight. Capt. McGinty reported that his steamer's stern tube was damaged and that she was making a great deal of water which at the time of the *Ho Tung's* arrival, was above the stowhold plates. Capt. McGinty further reported the necessity for beaching the steamer; that he successfully accomplished.

SAVING THE PASSENGERS. Attention was at once directed to saving the passengers on board the *San Cheung*, all of whom were Chinese. They were all transferred in boats to the *Ho Tung*, which, having successfully fulfilled her mission, proceeded on her journey, arriving at Hongkong at 3.45 a.m. when information was promptly conveyed to the owners of the *San Cheung* of their vessel's predicament.

A PASSENGER'S NARRATIVE. From a Chinese passenger on board the rescuing vessel, our representative was able to gather a few more particulars, although there was not much to add to the official report chronicled above. Our informant said:—"I was a passenger on board the *Ho Tung* bound from Kowloon to Hongkong. Shortly after midnight last night when not far from the Brothers I was awakened from my peaceful slumbers by the shrill blast of a steamer's whistle. I promptly made for the deck and descried through the dim lights of a bright night a vessel on the beach apparently in distress. The captain of our steamer turned the *Ho Tung* towards the distressed vessel and soon we were close up to her. The *Ho Tung's* boats were quickly lowered and manned and promptly brought alongside the disabled vessel, which was discovered to be the *San Cheung*. From inquiries it was learned that, while on the voyage from Canton to Hongkong, she had the misfortune of breaking her tail shaft and water began to rub into the hold through the stern post. The steamer's pumps were set going, but as this failed to cope with the volume of water which poured in, Capt. McGinty conceived the idea of beaching his vessel. This he did on the sandy beach of Castle Peak.

The *San Cheung* signalled for assistance which arrived shortly after midnight with the approach of the *Ho Tung* which was making for Hongkong harbour. Our boats took away 200 Chinese passengers. Were there any women? Yes, how many I didn't count. I have not heard that any person has been drowned. We arrived in Hongkong a few minutes before four this morning and landed all the *San Cheung's* passengers here."

DESPATCH OF THE SALVAGE PARTY. Salvage operations in connection with the unfortunate vessel were entrusted into the capable hands of the firm of marine engineers, Messrs. Carnichael and Co. The two resident engineers in the firm left for Castle Peak this in the forenoon to day, they were Mr. H. F. Carnichael and Mr. T. H. G. Brayfield, who took with them divers and fitters besides a quantity of salvage gear, pumps, etc. They proceeded on board the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co.'s launch No. 7. An effort will first be made, after ascertaining the extent of the *San Cheung's* injuries, to plug the hole, when the pumps will be set going to regain the vessel's buoyancy. After being temporarily patched up, the *San Cheung* will be towed to Hongkong for repairs. Very fine weather is favouring the salvaging party in its operations.

THE "SAN-CHEUNG" is a wood, twin-screw vessel of 692 tons. She was built in 1902 by the Chinese firm of shipbuilders, Kwan Tak Cheong, at Kowloon, and is owned by the Cheung On Steamboat Co., Ltd. Her dimensions are—Length, 180 ft.; breadth, 32 ft.; and depth of hold, 9 ft. It was a fortunate circumstance that the mishap occurred on this return voyage from Canton, when there is usually a comparatively smaller number of passengers. Owing to the tomb-sweeping festival the traffic is abnormally big at this time of year. On her last trip to Canton, the *San Cheung* carried about a thousand Chinese passengers.

RETURN OF VISITORS to the City Hall Library and Museum, for the week ending the 4th April, 1909:

Non-Chinese	420
Chinese	254
Total	674

THE CHINA-BORNEO COMPANY, LIMITED.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The sixth ordinary yearly meeting of shareholders of the China-Borneo Co., Ltd., was held at the Company's office, St. George's Building, at noon, to-day (5th inst.), to receive a statement of accounts to the 31st December, 1908, and the report of the general manager and consulting committee and to elect a consulting committee and auditor. Mr. J. W. C. Bonar presided. Others present: Mr. W. C. Paul Chatter (Consulting Committee), J. Wheeler (General Manager), J. A. Jupp, W. A. Dowley, J. F. Wright, C. D. Mackie, P. Tester and T. D. Pearce.

The Chairman, having read the notice convening the meeting, said:—"Gentlemen—You have now had the report and accounts in your hands for some days and if you have no objection I will take them as read. The Company's operations during the period under review show a very satisfactory result considering the bad state of business generally and how much exchange has been against us during the whole of the year. The volume of business done compares more than favourably with previous years and I trust will continue to increase. The Company's properties have all been well kept up during the year and are all in good order and I am glad to say that, so far, operations for the current year are quite satisfactory. We hope you will approve our recommendations as to the disposal of the sum at credit of working account, 18,000, the year-end dividend of 10% on the subscribed capital—amounting to \$155,000—writing 10% of Hongkong Saw Mills, \$5,000 off launches and lighters, \$5,000 off engineering works, \$15,000 off plant, \$1,450 off timber concessions, \$1,000 off Kudu pier and house property, and carrying \$15,000 to reserve. The output of timber shows a considerable increase on previous years and the European members of the company's staff have all done their utmost to further the company's interests and we have provided \$3,000 out of the credit on credit of working account to be distributed amongst them *pro rata* according to the amount of their salaries, and hope this also will meet with your approval. Before proposing the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be pleased to answer any questions.

There were no questions. The Chairman proposed the adoption of the report and accounts as presented. Mr. J. A. Jupp seconded. Carried unanimously. Mr. J. F. Wright proposed and Mr. W. A. Dowley seconded, the confirmation of Mr. J. W. C. Bonar's appointment on the Consulting Committee and the re-election of Sir Paul Chatter."

Agreed. On the motion of Mr. C. D. Mackie, seconded by Mr. P. Tester, Mr. W. Hutton Pott was re-elected auditor. The Chairman—That is all the business, gentlemen. Thank you for your attendance. Dividend warrants will be ready on application to-morrow morning.

FISHING WITH EXPLOSIVES.

CLEVER CAPTURE BY POLICE OFFICER.

A very smart capture of a number of fishermen, who were caught red-handed fishing with dynamite, was executed by Police Sergeant Gordon, of Chung-chau Station, on Sunday morning. Late on Saturday night a fishing fleet, comprising 150 boats, left Cheung-chau harbour bound for the fishing grounds, close to Lantau Island. Sergeant Gordon, who was aware that the men would infringe the law followed in a sloop. He was accompanied by a native detective. At about four o'clock yesterday morning the fishing fleet reached their destination. The sloop by this time had been moored in a handy creek, and its occupants were watching operations very closely. Sticks and sticks of dynamite were cast overboard, and, according to the officer, who by now had seen his way to act, when he got close by the surface of the water was literally covered with dead and stunned fish. A number of the junk were raised before they could get away and six men were placed under arrest. This morning the delinquents were arraigned before Mr. F. A. Hazledorn and were found guilty of fishing with explosives. On this charge they were fined \$50 apiece.

THE PRATAS ISLAND QUESTION.

OFFICIAL STATEMENT.

With regard to the Pratas Island affair, Mr. Kurechi, Director of Political Affairs Bureau in the Foreign Office, says that the Japanese Government has considered the island as belonging to no country, and has never recognised it as part of Japanese domains. Under the circumstances, Japan will not hesitate to recognise it as belonging to China if the latter has proved it by fact. It must, however, be remembered that due protection shall be given by the Chinese Government to the Japanese subjects who have been working in the island in good faith since the time when the island was in a state belonging to the Chinese. Realising the necessity that it has to state the above facts, the Japanese Government has already dispatched instructions to the Minister and Consul.

GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY. As to the geography and history of the island, an official in the Foreign Office states that the island lies in 20° 42' N. Lat. and 116° 41' E. Long., and 170 miles south-east of Hongkong and 200 miles south-west of the escarpment. The island measures one mile in length and half a mile in breadth. In 1893, the captain of a British battleship recognised the island, and in 1896 two Lieut. Commanders of G.R.S. Britain published a perfect chart of the island. The whole island is covered with shrub. Reef surrounds the island to the great danger of ships flying between Manila and Hongkong.

ANTI-JAPANESE FEELING. The Hongkong correspondent of the *Tokyo Asahi* writes that the Japanese Government has been making a great deal of noise about the island question Chinese papers maintain that the island belongs to their own country and are trying to form the public opinion in this direction. The *Taipei Maru* affair, the papers say, disgraced to China, created a boycott movement which has tormented Japan. This measure is to gain victory without appealing to arms. The moment the boycott movement becomes a little abated, Japan begins to be arrogant. Not content with the Kanto question, she tries to open dispute over the Pratas Island. If left to herself, she may attempt to claim Canton. Even if the audacious Japan may continue to conquer the Middle Kingdom, the Chinese cannot be duped. In such a way, the Chinese papers are full of inflammatory articles. And they are distributing bills with inflammatory words among the people for the purpose of creating a boycott movement.—*Japan Times*.

WEI-HAI-WEI LAND AND BUILDING CO., LTD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The shareholders of the Wei-hai-wei Land and Building Co., Ltd., held their annual meeting in the office of Messrs. Lavers and Clark, Shanghai, on 31st inst., when the following gentlemen were present: Messrs. A. McLeod, Chairman, E. Jenner Hogg, and E. E. Clark, Directors; G. P. Lowe, C. W. Wrightson, J. M. Young, and H. T. Bell, representing a total of 714 shares. The Chairman said—The report and accounts have been in your hands for some days, and with your permission I will take them as read. The working account shows a profit of Tls. 2,180.00 as against Tls. 1,931.00 in the previous year, accounted for by more bungalows having been let. Charges are about the same, except that Government taxes show an increase owing to the fee for keeping a local register of shares, and the fact that increased rentals means more taxes paid to the Wei-hai-wei Government, and we have to pay a tax of 5 per cent. on net rentals. In profit and loss account, the item of profit on sale of investments, Tls. 748.71 is accounted for as follows:—"When we had the special meetings last summer to reduce the capital, we hoped that the details could be arranged quickly, and that we should need the money to pay this refund; as there was a favourable opportunity of disposing of our investments at a profit on book-cost, we did so, and invested the money in other ways in such a manner that we can call it in at very short notice; the last petition for the reduction of capital has now been heard, and I am expecting to hear any day now that we can pay the refund of capital. Since I wrote these remarks I am glad to say that we have received a letter from our solicitors, which reads as follows:—"We have this day received a letter from Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Massey informing that the hearing of the petition on the 25th instant the Court made an order for the reduction of capital as prayed for. The Court further ordered that the words 'and reduced' should form part of the title of the company for fourteen days from the date of the order, i.e., the 24th instant." The buildings have now been written down to 65% of their original cost and furniture to about 50% of its first cost. The claim for rents of bungalows in 1908 is still in abeyance, but we still show it in our books, with the hope that eventually we shall be able to recover it. Five leases for the bungalows for the coming summer have been signed and four more are being negotiated for, so that we hope to show a better result for this year's working than last year. As the two back bungalows in Naricius Bay were generally empty owing to their position behind the front ones, we decided to move them to the front, and this is being done now, so that they will be ready for occupation this summer. I don't think there is anything more to say; we still hope for the Government development of Wei-hai-wei, which would of course mean also the development of our company, but in the meantime, we must just go on waiting; if anything turns up, we are in a position to take the fullest advantage of it. That is all I have to say, but I shall be glad to answer any questions to the best of my ability.

No questions were asked and the Chairman proposed the adoption of the report and accounts. Mr. E. Jenner Hogg seconded and the motion was carried unanimously. Mr. C. W. Wrightson moved and Mr. G. P. Lowe seconded the re-election of Mr. A. McLeod as a director, which was also carried. Mr. G. P. Lowe proposed the appointment of Messrs. A. McLeod, E. Jenner Hogg, and E. E. Clark as auditors, and this motion, which was seconded by Mr. J. M. Young, was also adopted. The Chairman said he could not announce that dividend warrants would be posted; but in a very short time he hoped that they would be able to send the Tls. 5 per share of return capital.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS. The directors have now to submit for the information of shareholders the audited general statement of accounts and balance sheet for the year ending December 31, 1908. Six of the bungalows were occupied during the summer season. A sum of Tls. 205.50 was expended during the year in general repairs and upkeep of the bungalows, which are now in good order. The claim for bungalow rents (Tls. 3,470) on account of the summer of 1908 is still in abeyance. Leases have already been signed for the coming season. It is hoped that the necessary formalities will shortly be completed to enable the reduction of capital (Tls. 5 per share) to be paid to shareholders.

The Company owns 339,836 mow of land comprised in the following 5 estates, of which so far only about 42 mow have been utilized, leaving about 298 mow to be developed. This undeveloped land has been charged with interest, and the five estates show their actual book value.

Estate No. 1.—Consists of 108,54 mow on the beach in Naricius Bay. On it there are four 5-roomed bungalows.

Estate No. 2.—Consists of 64,821 mow in Half Moon Bay. On it there are four 5-roomed and three 4-roomed bungalows.

Estate No. 3.—Consists of 10,645 mow in Naricius Bay.

Estate No. 4.—Consists of 90,383 mow on the South side of Flagstaff Hill.

Estate No. 5.—Consists of 16,415 mow East of Mahto.

Directors.—Mr. E. E. Clark, on his departure from Shanghai, resigned his seat on the Board and Mr. A. McLeod was invited to join the Directorate, the latter resigned on leaving Shanghai, and Mr. Clark having returned, resumed his seat on the Board. Mr. A. McLeod declines nomination, but being eligible for re-election, offers himself accordingly. Auditors.—Messrs. A. R. Leake & Co., having been incorporated with Messrs. Lowe, Bingham and Matthews, the latter firm offer themselves for election.

A. McLEOD, Chairman. Shanghai, March 15, 1909. WORKING ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1908. (Conts. Omitted.)

To Salaries and wages	581
To Fire insurance	234
To Rent, stationery and advertising	32
To Shanghai agency charges	36
To Wei-hai-wei agency charges	66
To Hongkong agency charges	85
To Auditor's fees	50
To Governments' taxes	294
To Repairs	205
To Exchange	2
To Directors' fees	500
To Balance transferred to profit and loss account	1,181
Tls.	4,735
By Rentals	3,470
By Interest	477
Transfer Fees	500
Tls.	4,447
Profit and Loss	298
Tls.	4,735

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

To written off furniture account
 Tls. 511 || To written off buildings account | 2,197 |
To balance	2,046
Tls.	4,754
By balance brought forward from last year	1,624
By profit on sale of investments	748
By balance of working account for 1908	2,180
Tls.	4,552

Dependency.—Claim on the British Government for Rent of Bungalows Tls. 3,470.00 plus interest from 15th October, 1908.

Dr. BALANCE SHEET. Liabilities. Tls. Capital Account 91,850 Sundry Creditors 435 Profit and Loss Account 2,046 Suspense Interest 22,263 Cash due to Wei-hai-wei Agents 247 Tls. 116,831

Cr. Assets. Tls. Estate No. 1 land 14,931 Buildings 15,783 Less written off for depreciation 877 14,911 28,942

Estate No. 2 land 3,399 Buildings 1,320 Less written off for depreciation 1,320 27,079

Estate No. 3—Land 3,955 Buildings 2,612 No. 5—Land 17,621 Furniture 8,578 Less written off for depreciation 311 3,839

Additions during 1908, 161 4,000

Unexpired Fire Insurance 159 Cash with Shanghai Agents 700 Sundry Debitors 45 Cash with the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation 606 Secured Loans 200,000.00 Astor House Hotel

C. L. D. 7% Debentures Tls. 18,000.00 21,800

Tls. 116,831

A. McLEOD, E. JENNER HOGG, Directors.

I certify that all my requirements as auditor have been complied with, and I report that in my opinion the above balance sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the company's affairs as shown by the books of the company. Shanghai, March 16, 1909.

F. N. MATTHEWS, Chartered Accountant.

LAVERS & CLARK, Agents.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

THE PROPOSED ARBITRATION.

Tokio, March 30.

The Tokio Press discredits the rumour that America will support China's proposal to refer pending questions to arbitration, and points out that the agreement between America and Japan for the maintenance of the open door and equal opportunities in Manchuria was concluded on the understanding that rights and interests already established should be mutually respected.—*N. C. D. News*.

A UNIVERSITY FOR CHINA.

LORD WILLIAM CECIL'S TENTATIVE SCHEME.

Lord William Cecil writes in the *N. C. D. News* of 31st ult.—"May I point out that the scheme, the outline of which appeared in your paper, is merely tentative and has been put forward privately for the criticism of those interested in education, both Chinese and foreign. When their criticisms have been collected, either the project will be abandoned altogether, or a definite scheme will be adopted differing probably in certain matters and those not unimportant ones. Though I am willing to discuss this matter with anyone, I am most unwilling to be thought to be definitely advocating this or any other scheme; I hope that the Chinese government will be able to do this when the final scheme is laid, if it may be such as to command universal acceptance."

There are two features which I personally think should be accentuated in the final scheme, which are not sufficiently made clear in the present scheme; the first I will refer to because it has been referred to in your article. It is there said that the University is to be under foreign control; that certainly was not the view of a large portion of the Committee; they held, as I hold, that the foreign element in such a scheme cannot be a permanent one as years go by, I hope that the Chinese government of the University will occupy the chairs, if the University and the institution will gradually become more and more Chinese. I leave it to specialists here to say how long the European element in such a University might be expected to continue. The second point which has not been made clear is that we suggest, while giving all the knowledge that the exigencies of modern life require, we do not regard that as sufficient training for a cultured man. In London we were of opinion that the study of the Confucian classics, especially comparative study of Chinese and Greek philosophy, would be necessary, but since I have been here, I have gathered that the opinion of all specialists is that Confucian classics and ethics must be a more special feature of the University education and that they are in no way inconsistent with the faith of a Christian. In conclusion, may I say that I was exceedingly doubtful when I left whether the scheme was at all possible, but the kindly reception that it has received, especially from the Chinese, and the kinder criticism which many have offered by which it can be improved, made me more sanguine, though in no sense confident that a University in China, where there shall be complete liberty of conscience among those taught, and yet which shall be permeated with a Christian atmosphere, is a practicable proposition.

RETURNS of the average amount of banknotes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 31st March, 1909, as certified by the managers of the respective Banks:—

Banks	Average Specie in Amount Reserve
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China	\$3,240,913 32,000,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	\$1,500,000 13,000,000
National Bank of China	\$5,824 000
Bank of China	5,824 000
Total	\$10,260,737 45,000,000

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

CHICAGO-SEATTLE TRAIN SERVICE.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha writes to us as follows:—"We are advised by the head office of the Great Northern Railway of the following improvement in their train service for overland passengers of the C.N.S. & S. Co's *Algonquin* or Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamers will be the first of the large Trans-Continental lines to establish through service between Chicago and Seattle. According to present plans, effective May 23rd, the *Algonquin* Limited, which is the Great Northern's present crack train, will leave Chicago for Seattle every day in the year at 10.15 p.m. via the Burlington and Great Northern routes, arriving at Seattle at 8 a.m. The train will leave Seattle at 8 p.m., arriving at Chicago on the third day at 2 p.m. This not only equals, but exceeds the time made by any of the other fast trains between Chicago and the Pacific coast. It represents a distance of 2,350 miles in 71 hours and 45 minutes westbound (less than three days) and 72 hours eastbound. The prelat service, which is as fast as via any other route, is made in 76 hours and 45 minutes westbound and 79 hours and 47 minutes eastbound. When a traveler leaves Seattle for Chicago he will spend on night less on the road than he is doing at present. It is impossible at the present time to give the arrival and leaving times at intermediate points. On the same date the Great Northern will establish through train service between Seattle and Kansas City via the Great Northern and Burlington routes through Billings. The Kansas City train will leave the main line of the Great Northern at Shelby, crossing Montana through Great Falls, and at the Billings Cut-off this new train is expected to leave Seattle 6.00 p.m. arriving at Spokane about 8.00 a.m. and Kansas City 7.30 a.m. the third day. Westbound this train will reach Seattle about 8.00 a.m. Details as to equipment and exact time of train will be announced later on."

SHIPPING CLERK ARRESTED.

CHARGED WITH ALLEGED FORGERY AND EMBEZZLEMENT.

When the steamer *Thyphaea* arrived in port last Monday morning from Batavia, Detective Sergeant Wilson placed under arrest a man giving the name of Leopold Fischer, otherwise known as Louis Fraser. The arrest was made by virtue of a warrant. Fischer or Fraser, it is asserted, was shipping clerk in the firm of Eben, Meyer & Co., and the charge against him is one of forgery and embezzlement. The sum involved is supposed to be 10,000 guilders. He was arraigned on the charges in the Police Court this morning and, pleading not guilty, was remanded for a week.

RAISING OF THE "DIAMBI."

The *Singapore Free Press* of 29th ult. says:—"It will be remembered that on Monday, 11th January, at about 5 p.m., the M.M. s.s. *Polynesian*, while proceeding from her berth at Borneo Wharf on a voyage to Saigon, for some reason unknown, would not answer her steering gear and in consequence, when nearing the entrance to the Tanjong Pagar Dock Board's Victoria Graving Dock, slipped in to the entrance and rammed the s.s. *Diambi* cutting that vessel down and sinking her immediately with lamentable loss of life. The *Diambi* could hardly have been sunk at a more awkward place, the having been berthed alongside the entrance wharf."

In order to prepare for lifting and removing the wreck a considerable portion of the wharf had first to be demolished and the piles comprising the same drawn to allow two large lighters to be placed alongside the wreck, these with other two on the outside, being the method decided on by the management of the Dock Board to float the sunken vessel. Ever since the accident took place, the sunken vessel has been a serious hindrance to the Board's operations at this section as no every vessel that the Albert Graving Dock might accommodate, could find space sufficient to pass the wreck for the purposes of docking. Indeed, at the time of the accident the large steamer *Diambi* was in the dock, and it was with great difficulty she could pass the *Diambi* when undocking.

The preparations for floating and removing the *Diambi* have been in progress for weeks, and consisted of placing two 100-ton lighters bow to bow on each side of the *Diambi*, four lighters being thus employed. From the lighters a large staff of men and their tools and gear were hoisted up and thus over the wreck were hoisted spars lashed together with chains, bolted and clamped. There were thus at intervals three groups of spars extending across the two forward lighters and similarly across the two after ones, and from these specially strong wire ropes passed round the bottom of the wreck, which was thus suspended at six places. All these preparations were needed when it is borne in mind that the *Diambi* was practically cut in two by the impact of the *Polynesian*. The first operations commenced early on Saturday morning when a large staff of men and their tools and gear were hoisted up and thus over the wreck were hoisted spars lashed together with chains, bolted and clamped. There were thus at intervals three groups of spars extending across the two forward lighters and similarly across the two after ones, and from these specially strong wire ropes passed round the bottom of the wreck, which was thus suspended at six places. All these preparations were needed when it is borne in mind that the *Diambi* was practically cut in two by the impact of the *Polynesian*. The first operations commenced early on Saturday morning when a large staff of men and their tools and gear were hoisted up and thus over the wreck were hoisted spars lashed together with chains, bolted and clamped. There were thus at intervals three groups of spars extending across the two forward lighters and similarly across the two after ones, and from these specially strong wire ropes passed round the bottom of the wreck, which was thus suspended at six places. All these preparations were needed when it is borne in mind that the *Diambi* was practically cut in two by the impact of the *Polynesian*.

The lifting and removing of this vessel was a matter of much anxiety to those concerned and great credit is due to all who had to do with the operation which was carried through without the slightest mishap.

THE RAUB MINES.

The following is the result of crushing operations at Raub for the four weeks ending 27th ultimo:—

Bukit Komar—Stones crushed 3,755 tons, gold obtained 924 ounces, average per ton 6 cwt. 5 grs.
Bukit Macassar—Stones crushed 2,386 tons, gold obtained 705 ounces, average per ton 21 grains.

A VERY successful tattoo which was much appreciated was given by the Hongkong-Singapore Battalion Royal Garrison Artillery last Saturday night on the grounds of the United Services Recreation Club at Kowloon, when Major Phillips and Officers of the H.B.R.G.A. were "at home" to their friends. Those who are unacquainted with Anglo-Indian life were given an opportunity to watch one of the weird, native dances by the dusky soldiers from the "Land of Regret." Besides this, a brilliant sham fight was held, which culminated in an extraordinary man being attacked and subsequently slain at the altar. Among those present was E. E. the Governor, who showed great interest in the various exhibitions. The entertainment on account of the newly arrived, distinctly good.

COOLIE SHOT.

AT SHAU-KI-WAN.

A most unfortunate accident occurred at Shau-ki-wan last Sunday afternoon. A street coolie was the victim. The coolie, it would appear, was bathing in the filter bed of the reservoir, when a European, who was armed with a double-barrelled sporting rifle, was about the hills. The coolie, having had his bath, left the filter bed to dry himself and at that moment the European fired at a bird. He missed. The coolie advanced to see who was firing, and no sooner had he done that, than the European delivered his second shot, which struck the coolie on the back, inflicting a neck, arm and leg. Realizing that the whole thing was an accident, the European called a policeman (Police Constable O'Sullivan) and the injured man was sent to hospital. His condition was not serious and he was discharged on Monday morning, when he appeared before Mr. J. H. Kemp to answer a charge of bathing in the filter bed. He pleaded guilty to the charge and was ordered to pay a fine of \$75. He had not the money and was admitted to goal for three months. (Amount added to injury is so word under the circumstances.)

CHINESE IN AUSTRALIA.

SENDING CHILDREN INTO SLAVERY.

A serious accusation has been made against a section of the Chinese population resident in the Commonwealth of sending their offspring to China for sale as slaves. That something of the kind existed had long been suspected, but it was not until certain information reached the Victorian Government for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children that public attention became directed to the matter. It was stated that a couple of young children, mere infants, the offspring of a Chinese father and an Australian mother, had been sold to be sent to China, where the purchaser would sell them at a handsome profit. The infant was the wife of a Chinese catechist attached to the Victorian Church of England Missionary Society, who claimed possession of considerable experience of the lesser-known ways of the Chinese residents in the Commonwealth. Hearing from the sister of the Australian wife of Mr. Lee that two of his children had been sold to go to China, she at once communicated with the secretary of the society. The result was that the Melbourne police immediately commenced an investigation into the matter, and ascertained that the parents had been married in that city seven years previously, and had three children—Alice, aged five years, Katie, three and a half years, and Eric, aged two years. They are described as being "bright, good-looking children, having the inevitable Chinese colour with the red tinge of Anglo-Saxon blood, and good features." Alice and Eric are the two children denied for transport to China, the professed object, according to their parents, being to secure their education in Chinese fashion, although their tender ages made the excuse extremely doubtful. They were to be in charge of one Ah Fook, a cabinet-maker; but beyond this nothing could be ascertained definitely, and consequently the departure of the youngsters and their custodian could not be prevented. The incident has, however, led to considerable light being thrown upon an unsatisfactory aspect of Chinese life in Australia. The woman, who gave the information, herself an Australian, has two half-caste children by her Chinese husband, from whom she is separated, partly by reason of her assets, of her refusal to assent to the sale of her son, and two years of age, to a Chinese buyer, the price offered being

party has remained practically
price realised to-day, may there-
fore be ridiculously low.

OPIMUM ON MORTALITY.

RESULT OF ACTUARIAL INVESTIGATIONS.

We have received from Mr. S. L. Nall, F.R.S., Actuary of the China Mutual Life Insurance Co., Ltd., Shanghai, a copy of a brochure on the effect of opium on mortality. The memorandum was presented to the delegates at the recent International Conference at Shanghai. It is as follows:—

In the following paper will be found the results of an investigation made as to the effects of opium upon mortality, as experienced by the China Mutual Life Insurance Company, Ltd.

One of the first subjects which called for my attention when appointed actuary to this Company was the mortality experienced by the Chinese and other nationalities in the East, as compared with the mortality prevailing among Europeans. The calculation of premiums, and the equitable distribution of surplus, among other things, made such inquiry necessary.

Preparations were accordingly made for the scheduling of the experience, with particular regard to the comparative rate of mortality prevailing among:—

- (1) Opium smokers and non-opium smokers.
- (2) Chinese and other races.
- (3) Lives resident in temperate, sub-tropical and tropical climates.

With regard to the comparative mortality prevailing among opium smokers and non-opium smokers, I was unable to trace any previous statistical inquiry had been made. A report had been given before the Commission on opium in India in 1893 by Mr. Slater on the effect of opium on mortality, to which the following reference appears in the *Journal of the Institute of Actuaries*, volume 34, page 527.

"Some interesting information with regard to the modern growth of life assurance in India may also be found in the evidence of Mr. Slater and of various medical men resident in that country, given before the Opium Commission in 1893. From this evidence we learn that the practice of life assurance among the natives is considerably increasing, and that assurance companies will accept a proposal from a man who takes opium as readily as if he did not, if in other respects his life is an eligible one. During the first decade of the history of the Oriental life was considered expedient to make a small extra for opium consumers in moderate quantities, more, however, as an extra precautionary measure than on account of any proved ill effects of the opium habit. At the end of this period an investigation was made into the matter and it was then ascertained that out of 167 deaths not a single one was due either directly or indirectly to opium. The ratio experienced for every 100 deaths computed by the H.M. Table was—British 154, Eurasian 82, native 103. Hence while British lives experienced 54 per cent. greater mortality than what was the case in this country, that of the aggregate Indian lives had been precisely the same as that shown by the H.M. Table. The result of this investigation modified the practice of imposing extras, and it was stated that it sometimes happened that when a life proved exceptionally healthy, no extra at all was made for opium smoking. A further investigation took place six years later, the number of deaths being 779, when it was found that the mortality of British lives in India was 53 per cent. greater than that of the H.M. Table, while that of the aggregate native lives was only 16 per cent. greater. Here again, it appeared that no death was due to opium, and in view of the additional light thrown upon the subject by this experience, the management decided in future to charge no extra whatever to opium eaters."

The report referred to above, deals with the effect of opium eating. The majority of the policyholders in the Company are Chinese, and it was to the effect of opium upon them that attention was first directed. As the majority of Chinese opium users smoke it, the investigation differs from that of Mr. Slater. Not only so, but the final results differ considerably from Mr. Slater's.

I therefore ventured to hope that a summary of the experience would not be without interest to this Commission, and with the cordial permission of my directors the present paper was written.

In order to collect the data for scheduling, the usual plan was followed of writing cards for each life which had been proposed for insurance in the Company. The nearest age at date of entry was entered on the card as age at entry, and the year and month in which the life was under observation to the age at entry. The amount of opium used was also entered on the cards.

The cards were scheduled and the number of "Exposed to Risk" and "Deaths" at each age obtained. There were 13,356 lives under observation giving 26,038 years exposure, and 549 deaths. The "Exposed to Risk" and "Deaths" were afterwards grouped in quinquennial age groups. Thus, the "Exposed to Risk" and "Deaths" at ages 18-22 were entered against age 20, and the "Exposed to Risk" and "Deaths" at ages 23-27 were entered against age 25, and so on, with the exception of the first group, age 17 and under, which includes 8 years of exposure ages less than 13, and the last group, which includes, all cases at age 58 and over, the years of exposure over age 62 being only 42.

These figures, together with the "Rates of Mortality" obtained therefrom, will be found in Table I. No attempt has been made to graduate these rates, which are simply obtained by dividing the "Deaths" by the "Exposed to Risk" at the corresponding ages.

This table, which shows the rates of mortality based on the total Chinese lives under observation, will be useful later in comparing the rates obtained by sub-dividing the experience.

TOTAL EXPERIENCE.

Age	Exposed to Risk	Deaths	Rate of Mortality
17 and under	209	3	.014
20	284	12	.042
25	2,381	51	.021
30	4,393	76	.017
35	4,945	77	.016
40	4,449	77	.017
45	3,517	69	.020
50	2,458	88	.036
55	1,492	53	.036
58 and over	660	43	.065
Total	26,038	549	

The cards were then sorted into two groups, opium smokers and non-opium smokers, and in table II is given the "Exposed to Risk," "Deaths," and the "Rates of Mortality" obtained from these figures. A comparison of the rate in table II will be more conveniently left till later in the paper.

It should be noted that in making the division between opium smokers and non-opium smokers, one had to rely on the answers given to the medical examination during the examination necessary for issue of a policy. It is therefore probable that some non-opium smokers are included in the "non-opium smokers" group, but it is very improbable that any non-opium smokers are included in the "opium smokers" group.

TOTAL NON-OPIMUM SMOKERS AND OPIMUM SMOKERS.

Table I.

Age	Non-opium Smokers	Opium Smokers	Rate of Mortality
17 and under	209	2	.014
20	284	12	.042
25	2,381	47	.020
30	4,393	53	.012
35	4,945	50	.010
40	4,449	51	.011
45	3,517	48	.014
50	2,458	67	.027
55	1,492	35	.023
58 and over	660	33	.050
Total	21,007	409	

It was considered that the effects of opium smoking might vary with the climate to which the lives were exposed. The cards were accordingly again sub-sorted into two divisions, one including lives residing in Fochow and in all places north of Fochow, and the other including all lives residing south of Fochow, i.e., in the tropics, and including those residing in Hongkong, Manila, Java, Straits Settlements, and Rangoon. This grouping was very conveniently made because the company charges one set of premiums for division 1, and a second set of premiums for division 2. In table 3 will be found the "Exposed to Risk," "Deaths," and "Rates of Mortality," experienced by the lives in division 1, which may be conveniently called "Northern Section," and in table 4, the "Exposed to Risk," "Deaths," and "Rates of Mortality," experienced by division 2, or the "Southern Section."

NORTHERN SECTION.

Age	Non-opium Smokers	Opium Smokers	Rate of Mortality
17 and under	141	1	.007
20	174	1	.006
25	1,117	20	.018
30	1,948	24	.012
35	1,603	16	.010
40	1,382	19	.014
45	857	15	.018
50	632	21	.033
55	365	14	.038
58 and over	208	12	.058
Total	8,317	147	

SOUTHERN SECTION.

Age	Non-opium Smokers	Opium Smokers	Rate of Mortality
17 and under	77	1	.016
20	110	11	.100
25	1,264	27	.021
30	2,450	29	.012
35	3,342	30	.009
40	2,402	32	.013
45	1,861	33	.018
50	1,169	46	.039
55	761	21	.028
58 and over	313	11	.035
Total	12,606	258	

COMPARISON OF RATES OF MORTALITY IN TABLES 1, 2, 3, AND 4.

Age	Total	Non-opium Smokers	Opium Smokers
17 and under	.014	.014	.008
20	.042	.042	.008
25	.021	.021	.015
30	.017	.016	.018
35	.016	.014	.010
40	.016	.014	.010
45	.016	.014	.018
50	.036	.037	.033
55	.036	.031	.049
58 and over	.065	.058	.082

If we compare the figures in columns 3 and 4 of table 5, it will be seen that after age 25 the rates in column 4 are considerably in excess of the rates in column 3, with the exception of the rate for age 30. With regard to the rates up to age 25, it will be found from table 5 (total non-opium smokers and opium smokers) that there were only 4 deaths up to that age among opium smokers. The data for the first three groups, age 17 and under, age 20, and age 25, is therefore too meagre for the results to be of any value. In the following groups the number of deaths is fairly large. I have no special explanation to offer for the rates at age 30, beyond the irregularities which one naturally expects to find in attempting to discover from limited data a law of which the curve could only be smoothly plotted on examination of an indefinite number of cases.

I submit, however, that, in spite of the rates for age 30, these figures do show that opium smoking very considerably diminishes the vitality of the smokers.

Turning now to columns 5, 6, 7, and 8 of Table 5, we find that the same remarks apply to the rates in columns 5, 6, 7, and 8 as to columns 3 and 4, with the exception that we see that in the southern section that the irregularity at age 30 occurs.

On comparing the comparative effect of opium in the northern and southern sections, we see that in the southern section the effect seems more marked than in the northern section.

In order to investigate the comparative effect more fully the expected deaths among opium smokers according to the "Non-opium Smokers" rates of mortality were taken out. That is to say, that in the northern and southern sections and for total opium smokers I ascertained the number of deaths which would have occurred among the opium smokers had they been subject to exactly the same rates of mortality as those to which the non-opium smokers in that same section actually were subject as shown by the present figures.

The opium smokers "Exposed to Risk" in column 5 of Tables 3, 4, and 5, were multiplied by the "non-opium smokers" rates of mortality in column 4 of the same tables. In table 6 will be found the "Expected Deaths" calculated as above, together with the "Actual Deaths" which occurred among the opium smokers, being the total from column 6 in each of the tables 3, 4 and 5, together with the ratio "Expected Deaths" to "Actual Deaths."

COMPARISON OF EXPECTED AND ACTUAL DEATHS.

Age	Expected Deaths	Actual Deaths	Ratio
17 and under	1	3	.333
20	1	12	.083
25	11	51	.216
30	11	76	.145
35	11	77	.143
40	11	77	.143
45	11	69	.159
50	11	88	.125
55	11	53	.208
58 and over	11	43	.256

An examination of the ratios in column 4 shows that the "Actual Deaths" among opium smokers was 4 per cent. in excess of the "Expected Deaths," and that when the experience was divided through the "Actual Deaths" in the northern section were only 10 per cent. in excess of the "Expected Deaths," we find the "Actual Deaths" in the southern section exceed the expected by 61 per cent. In comparing these figures we must remember the irregularity which occurs in the rates for age 30 referred to above, which affects only the northern section.

On seeing the great difference in the ratios brought out in the northern and southern sections, I thought that possibly the opium smokers in the south might include more from the opium smokers in the north, and therefore had the cards for the opium smokers again sorted according to the amount of opium consumed daily by the applicant. Out of the 1,433 lives in the northern section, 214 stated that they only smoked occasionally. Out of the 1,124 lives in the southern section, 356 stated that they only smoked occasionally. The average amount smoked by the remaining 1,119 lives in the northern section was 3.14 mace a day, the average amount smoked by the 568 lives remaining in the southern section was 1.83 mace per day. As stated above, these figures are based on the statements of the applicants in answer to questions from the medical examiner. They show that the amount of opium smoked in the southern section on the average is rather less than that smoked in the northern section.

The difference in the ratios as shown in Table 6 cannot be explained therefore by saying that opium smokers in the tropics smoked more heavily than opium smokers in the north.

Having arrived at a result which differs so decidedly from Mr. Slater's, I read the evidence to his report in the *Journal of the Institute of Actuaries* more carefully. If we refer to it again we note that Mr. Slater confines himself to saying that "it was ascertained that out of 167 deaths not a single one was due directly or indirectly to opium" and later, "Here again it appeared that no deaths were due to opium." It occurred to me that possibly Mr. Slater had not compared the mortality in two groups separately, but had examined the paper in connection with each death claim individually, to ascertain the cause of death. From my experience in dealing with the death claims of the China Mutual Life Insurance Company, it would be very difficult to point to any particular death and say it was caused directly or indirectly by opium, although there is in many cases considerable difficulty in ascertaining the cause of death, owing to the fact that where a Chinese doctor is in attendance all that it is possible to get from him is the length of the illness, the date of death, and the manner in which he passed away. Although it would probably be impossible to prove that any particular death claim was payable through the effects of opium smoking, we frequently find the cause of death of the applicant's father or mother given as "Excessive Opium Smoking" in the answers to the medical examiner.

In the hope of obtaining some useful information I investigated the causes of death under the death claims paid by the Company. The deaths, therefore, were scheduled under the title, "Cause of Death," deaths of non-opium smokers being kept distinct from the deaths of opium smokers, and the Medical Director of the Company, Dr. Goode, was kind enough to group the deaths under the headings given in table 7. In columns 2 and 3 of this table will be found the number of deaths under each of the headings, and in columns 4 and 5 the percentage of the deaths in each group to the total deaths. It will be noticed that the largest percentage occurs under the heading, "Unclassified and Unknown." Out of 405 deaths in the non-opium section there were 69 where the cause was absolutely unknown. The remainder under the heading "Unclassified and Unknown" consists of cases where the cause of death given was not definite and had, such as "fever, inflammation, etc." Out of 144 deaths among the opium smokers the cause of death given was unknown in 23 cases, in definite terms being used to describe the cause of 121 deaths.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

Nature of Disease	No. of Deaths	Per cent.
Circulatory System	12	8.3
Urinary System	12	8.3
Respiratory System	20	14.0
Nervous System	8	5.6
Digestive System	10	7.0
Tropical Disease	83	58.3
Infectious Disease	23	16.0
Malignant Disease	7	5.0
General Disease	26	18.8
Accident	16	11.1
(Unclassified and Unknown)	122	85.0

On examination of the percentages in columns 4 and 5, the greatest difference will be found in the deaths under the heading "Digestive System," and this is what we should have expected. In our medical examination, when the applicant smokes opium he has to answer further questions, so that we may ascertain whether his digestive functions have been at all affected. In many cases the applicant suffers either from indigestion or diarrhoea. It has been noticed further that where it has been necessary from any cause for an opium smoker to undergo a second medical examination, his weight at the second examination is often less than at the first. Where an applicant for insurance is of excessive light weight in proportion to his height, a remark to this effect is entered on the medical examination form by the Medical Referee, who takes this fact into consideration in deciding whether to advise the acceptance or non-acceptance of the risk. I found that the percentage of "opium smoker" cases in which the remarks "under weight" occurred was twice the percentage of similar "non-opium smoker" cases.

I may say that this Company has always been more strict in the selection of risks where the applicant smokes opium. If the Company considers a life on which an application is submitted to be sub-standard, the application is either declined or a policy issued subject to a lien. The percentage of policies issued where the applicants were opium smokers was nearly three times the percentage issued where the applicants were non-smokers.

When the figures now submitted were shown to the directors, a resolution was passed at the meeting that applications for opium smokers' life policies should be subject to even stricter supervision than formerly.

It occurred to me that possibly the data in the company's records might afford some useful information to the Commission as to the prevalence of the opium smoking habit in different districts. In Table 8, I show the proportion of smokers and non-smokers in the different agencies of the company.

PERCENTAGE OF OPIMUM SMOKERS IN DIFFERENT DISTRICTS.

District	Non-opium Smokers	Opium Smokers	Percentage
Hongkong, Canton, etc.	1,074	96	8.0
Rangoon, Calcutta, etc.	170	14	7.6
Sumatra, Java, etc.	3,210	68	2.1
Manila, and Philippine Islands	95	14	14.7
Tientsin, Peking, and District	487	59	12.1
Fochow and District	439	51	11.6
Total	5,479	409	7.5

Shanghai and District 1,738 | 203 | 11.7 |

Singapore, etc. 599 | 151 | 25.2 |

Siam, Amoy, and District 456 | 18 | 3.9 |

Straits Settlements 3,210 | 68 | 2.1 |

Java, Sumatra, etc. 3,210 | 68 | 2.1 |

Manila, and Philippine Islands 95 | 14 | 14.7 |

Tientsin, Peking, and District 487 | 59 | 12.1 |

Fochow and District 439 | 51 | 11.6 |

Hongkong, Canton, etc. 1,074 | 96 | 8.0 |

Rangoon, Calcutta, etc. 170 | 14 | 7.6 |

To summarize I would submit that we are justified in drawing the following conclusions:—

- 1.—That the mortality experienced by opium smokers is heavier than that experienced by non-opium smokers.
- 2.—That opium smoking is more injurious in tropical than in sub-tropical or temperate climates.
- 3.—That though it would be difficult to trace any particular death to opium smoking, it is probable that the digestive organs are primarily affected by the habit, and the smokers become emaciated and lose weight.

I feel I should apologize for the hurried way in which this paper has been written, but would ask for your indulgence on the plea of pressure of work.

I have endeavoured to make my remarks as concise as possible merely directing your attention to the salient points and allowing the figures to speak for themselves. I hope, however, that no material point has been overlooked.

ANGLO-FRENCH LAND INVESTMENT CO., LTD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

Mr. C. R. Burkill (chairman of directors) presided at the annual meeting of the above company which was held at Shanghai on 2nd inst. at the office of Messrs. A. R. Burkill and Sons. There were also present Messrs. C. W. Thomas and Liu Chang-yin (directors), Rev. Pere Lemerrier, Messrs. O. L. Albert, D. M. Gubbay and B. H. Fuhlers, representing 14,745 shares.

The notice convening the meeting having been read by Mr. Davis, the Chairman addressed the shareholders as follows:—Gentlemen, The Report and Accounts have been in your possession for some days and I will, with your permission, take them as read. With reference to the Accounts there is a considerable increase in some of our expenses. The Hongkong Annual License amounting to Tls. 844.77 is an entirely new charge and will recur each year, as will also the Trustees fees of Tls. 1,000. Taxes show a very large increase owing to the revaluation by the French Municipality of the land which the Company occupies. The annual taxes have been raised from Tls. 5,900 to Tls. 7,300. Fire insurance shows an increase in responding to the increase in our property account. Other charges are about the same as formerly. The Company issued debentures (20 years)—in July of last year to the extent of Tls. 250,000 and Discounts and Expenses in connection with this issue amounted to Tls. 2,621.19 which charge your Directors have decided to apportion over a term of years. Tls. 621.19 being written off this year. Rentals show a considerable increase which would have been larger had trade been better and the number of empty houses not increased. Interest and Commission account is considerably less accounted for, by the investment of our money available for loans, on developing our properties and the interest on your Debentures. Our property account shows a considerable increase, chiefly on Estate B, our Burkill Road property, which is now completed. The property shows a fairly satisfactory return at present and, on the completion of the Myburgh Road Extension, will, we think, be greatly improved. We understand that the negotiations for the extension of this road are now proceeding with and with a great delay need not be expected. We have a considerable number of empty houses on the French side, but we hope that improved trade will soon fill them again and we are taking advantage of every opportunity of rebuilding on favourable terms to the Company. The age of some of our buildings is the chief factor against letting them and we are trying to get rid of the oldest of them. In the meantime they are being kept in as good repair as practicable. If any shareholder has any questions to ask I shall be pleased to answer them.

There were no questions and the Chairman presided over the meeting and accounts as usual. The meeting was accepted. This was seconded by Mr. Liu Chang-yin and carried.

On the proposition of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. C. W. Thomas, the directors were authorized to pay a dividend of Tls. 6 per share. The appointment of Messrs. C. W. Thomas and C. R. Burkill as directors of the Company was confirmed on the proposition of Mr. Albert seconded by Mr. Gubbay.

Mr. Fuhlers proposed that Mr. C. W. Thomas be re-elected a director of the Company. This resolution was seconded by Pere Lemerrier and carried unanimously.

Messrs. Lowe, Ringham and Matthews were re-elected as the company's auditors on the proposition of Mr. Liu Chang-yin seconded by Mr. C. W. Thomas.

The Chairman announced that dividend warrants would be posted at once, and thanked shareholders for their attendance. The meeting then ended.

PRISONER IN A BOX.

CURIOUS ESCAPE OF CHINESE FEMALE CONVICT.

A curious story of the escape of a Chinese female prisoner from Pudu Jail was told in the police court yesterday. A *Malay Mail* of February 23rd. The prisoner, who had served three months out of a term of 24 months' imprisonment for kidnapping, escaped from Pudu on the 4th inst. The chief European warder, it appears, saw the prisoner about 3.30 p.m. on that day, but at 6 o'clock received a report and discovered that the prisoner was not in the female ward. On investigation he found a ladder by the wall, and also two strong boxes which had been taken to the prison. A Chinese convict was charged with helping the prisoner to escape. A Chinese police-car driver stated that the second accused had engaged his car to convey a sideboard and a box to Kaitang. He took the driver to Pudu where the furniture was placed on the car, and at 6 p.m. the woman got into the car and hid herself in the box. Later on the man got into the car. About 11 p.m. when they got to the police station, the woman was found and arrested as well as the man. Mr. Howard sentenced both to 12 months' imprisonment, the woman to 12 months' and the man to 12 months'.

THE PRATAS ISLANDS.

THE PRATAS ISLANDS.

It is only in compliance with the nature of diplomatic incidents generally that the Pratas Islands, the ownership of which threatens to become something of a question between China and Japan, should have been brought to the thought of by the two Governments a month ago as they were by the world at large. The islands, or perhaps it would be more correct to say island, since there is only one worthy of the name, are familiar to seafaring men as a certain source of danger to vessels plying between Hongkong and Manila but in this respect they would not be differentiated greatly from the other group of rocky islets which stud the China Seas. So far back as the year 1858 the Pratas were visited, surveyed and their position fixed by Captain J. R. Richardson commanding the British gunboat *Serpent* and again in 1866 and 1867 further visits were paid by British naval officers, by which time a fairly complete chart appears to have been drawn up. Accounts vary as to the exact dimensions of the principal island: at the utmost it does not exceed a couple of miles in length by half a mile to a mile wide, the rest of the group consisting of a mass of some 200 islets, many of which are whole collections of about 100 miles south-east of Hongkong and 400 miles east of the French coast. At one time a vague rumour was current that the Japanese Government intended to occupy the group as a naval base. But to all intents and purposes the public history of the Pratas may be said to date from the beginning of the past month. It is true that in May of last year a curious paragraph appeared in the *Japan papers* to the effect that Mr. Yamada Teiko had reported to the Governor of the Izu Islands, the discovery of a small group of islands which he claimed to be identical with the Pratas. But apart from the serious absurdity of discovering what was to be seen clearly marked in any atlas, there are too many discrepancies in latitude and longitude, in the name of the Japanese owner associated with the Pratas and in the length of time during which the island is said to have been exploited by Japanese, for Mr. Yamada Teiko's feat to have much influence on the destinies of the group.

Three weeks ago, according to the *Southern China Morning Post* of Hongkong, the people of Canton were thrown into a state of ferment by a story that a party of Chinese fishermen, who were accustomed to pursue their business in the neighbourhood of the Pratas had been driven away from the island by Japanese colonists who had installed themselves in possession. Viceroy Chang I-chun thereupon dispatched to the locality a gunboat and a Customs cruiser, whose officers reported on their return that the Japanese colony numbered over one hundred men, who were busy at work removing phosphates, tortoise shells, coral, and pearl shell from the island. In a matter of years, it is stated, the Pratas were inhabited by dense forests of penguins. These, however, had been almost entirely killed off for the sake of their feathers. Rails had been laid down for the conveyance of the phosphates to the water's edge, houses had been built and the Japanese flag waved proudly over a scene of general industry. The Viceroy's messengers are said to have brought with them also a photograph of an inscription to the effect that the island had been discovered by the Japanese in the fourteenth year of the Meiji reign, that is, about eighteen months ago. No actual paper in support of the claim to the island could be produced by the Japanese authorities. It is further asserted that at some distant period Chinese junks had been seized and burned by the Japanese and that Chinese subjects had been chased from the island in fear of death. Up to this point the whole statement of the case had been drawn from Chinese sources; and it was not until a few days after the publication of the report which we have quoted, that a reply was made by the Japanese Government. That reply, certainly, was not to have been couched in the most reasonable terms. It was frankly admitted that the Japanese flag had been hoisted over the Pratas group three years ago and that the islands had been exploited by Japanese enterprise. At the same time, although she had had no knowledge of any rival claimant, Japan had never declared the Pratas to be her possession and she would not hesitate to restore them on China's producing proof of ownership. Since this statement was issued Viceroy Chang I-chun has made a formal request to Mr. Hasegawa, Japanese Consul at Canton, to bid his nationals retire from the disputed spot, and the question has passed into the hands of the War and Navy Departments. It cannot be supposed that the ownership of the Pratas is a matter of vital importance to either Government directly. The Chinese certainly claim that during the three years of Japanese occupation phosphates to the value of Yen 5,000,000 have been removed, and that at the same rate of production, there remains enough of this commodity in the islands to

Telegrams.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

OPIUM DUTY TO BE DOUBLED.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 2nd April.

The Ministry of Finance has decided to increase the duty on prepared opium by one hundred per cent. as from the third moon, whether the opium be of foreign cultivation or of home growth.

SHANGHAI-NANKING RAILWAY.

GOODS TRAINS CONTEMPLATED.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 2nd April.

In view of the heavy losses sustained by the Shanghai-Nanking Railway, the Ministry of Posts and Communications has in view the appointment of an official to confer with the authorities in Kansu province with the object of instituting a service of goods-carrying trains.

JAPAN AND CHINA.

FISHING JUNKS IN NEUTRAL WATERS.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 2nd April.

There are over ten thousand Chinese fishing junks between the territorial waters of China and Korea.

An attempt is being made by Japan to exercise her jurisdiction over the fishing fleet.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has lodged a strong protest against the action of the Japanese Government.

CANTON-MACAO RAILWAY.

REPORTED CANCELLATION OF AGREEMENT.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 2nd April.

The other day the Waiwupu urged the Portuguese Minister in Peking the desirability of cancelling the Canton-Macao Railway Agreement.

It is now reported that the Portuguese Minister is willing to retrocede to China the concession (granted to a Sino-Portuguese syndicate).

The Waiwupu and the Ministry of Posts and Communications have therefore cancelled the Agreement and contemplate the construction of the line as a purely Chinese undertaking without joint capital from the Portuguese concessionaries.

GAMBLING IN KWANG-TUNG.

APPLICATION FOR ABOLITION.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 2nd April.

The Cantonese holding high official appointments in Peking have submitted a joint representation, under the leadership of Tai Hung-chi, president of the Ministry of Justice, urging that all the gambling farms in Kwangtung be abolished.

PEOPLES GRIEVANCES.

THE REGENT'S CONSIDERATION.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 2nd April.

Instructions have been given by the Prince Regent in person to Bannerment Troops commanding that they should not intimidate or prevent any person who may have grievances to lay before His Imperial Highness, from doing so in the streets.

The object of the instructions is that the Regent may be acquainted with the people's grievances and have them redressed accordingly.

MEMORIALS.

PRINCE REGENT'S STUDY.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 2nd April.

When perusing memorials, the Prince Regent is in the habit of making notes on all points that appeal to him as worthy of consideration.

OFFICIALS AND BUSINESS.

REVISION OF LAW.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 2nd April.

The Prince Regent is averse to officials carrying on business as merchants and traders at the same time as they hold offices under the Government.

He has given special instructions to the officials charged with the revision of the laws of the Empire to embody in the new statute book a law enforcing the prohibition.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

THE LOAN AGREEMENT.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 4th April.

H.E. Chang Chih-tung, director-general of the Canton-Hankow Railway, has telegraphed to the Viceroy and Governors of Hunan, Hupoh and Kwangtung Provinces requesting them to guarantee the loan for the construction of the railway so that the loan agreement may be signed at an early date.

A telegraphic message has been received from Hupoh acquiescing in the arrangement.

No replies have yet been received in from the authorities in the provinces of Hunan and Kwangtung.

His Excellency Chang Chih-tung has accordingly again telegraphed urging them to lose no time in replying.

The gentry and merchants of the three provinces (Hunan, Hupoh and Kwangtung) have applied to Chang Chih-tung to publish the agreement so that they may be acquainted with the terms and conditions which it contains.

TANG SHAO-YI'S ITINERARY.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 4th April.

Tang Shao-yi reported his arrival in Berlin on the 8th instant.

DELIBERATIVE COUNCIL.

INVITATION TO THE PROVINCES.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 4th April.

The Grand Council has wired to all the provinces to select members of the gentry well acquainted with local affairs to proceed to Peking by the third moon to take part in the Deliberative Council.

JAPAN AND CHINA.

TELEGRAPH IN MANCHURIA.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 4th April.

Japan has fixed to-day as the day for handing back to China the telegraphs in Southern Manchuria.

The Ministry of Posts and Communications has directed the officers in charge of the stations in the Three Eastern Provinces to take over the management.

DEVELOPMENT OF MINES.

FOREIGN CAPITAL INVITED.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 4th April.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Industries and Commerce has decided to invite foreign capital for the development of mines in China.

RUSSIA AND CHINA.

MUNICIPAL TAXES IN HARBIN.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 4th April.

The question of municipal taxation in Harbin is embarrassing; the Waiwupu has, therefore, telegraphed to Tang Shao-yi to return as early as possible.

MAKONG.

TO BE MADE A NAVAL BASE.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 4th April.

Prince Su has decided to convert Makong near Fouchow, into a naval base.

MEXICAN DOLLARS.

PROHIBITION OF IMPORTATION.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 4th April.

Tang Shao-yi has telegraphed to the effect that it is difficult to

obtain any arrangement for the prohibition of the importation of Mexican dollars.

PRATAS ISLANDS.

VICEROY CHANG TO REMAIN FIRM.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 5th April.

The Waiwupu has sent a telegram to the Viceroy of Canton in which His Excellency is urged to take up a firm attitude in conducting the negotiations with Japan on the subject of Pratas Islands.

CHINA'S CURRENCY.

NEW PROPOSALS BY BOARD OF FINANCE.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 5th April.

The Board of Finance has decided to adopt a seven mace two candareens (7.2) coin as the standard and has specially memorialised the Throne on the matter.

CHINESE CONSULATES.

PROPOSED OFFICERS AT HONGKONG AND JAVA.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 5th April.

It is reported that the Waiwupu is in treaty with the British and Dutch Ministers over the question of establishing Chinese Consulates at Hongkong and in Java for the maintenance of Chinese interests.

OPIUM IN PEKING.

DRASTIC MEASURES IN THE CAPITAL.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 6th April.

The forty-eight establishments in Peking dealing in prepared opium have received orders from the authorities to close their business.

TANG SHAO-YI.

RECEIVED BY THE KAISER.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 6th April.

A telegram has been received from His Excellency Tang Shao-yi, from Berlin, stating that he was received in audience by His Majesty the German Emperor on the 1st inst.

SHANGHAI SETTLEMENT.

SIR JOHN JORDAN'S ADVOCACY.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 6th April.

The British Minister at Peking, Sir John Jordan, has attended two meetings of the Waiwupu during the present month in order to forward the claim that the bounds of the Shanghai Settlement should be extended.

CANTON-KOWLOON RAILWAY.

FOUNDATION STONE OF GENERAL OFFICES LAID TO-DAY.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Shanghai, 7th April.

In accordance with arrangements previously detailed, the Viceroy of the Two Kwang Provinces, His Excellency Chang Jen-shun, formally performed the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the general offices and station buildings, which are being erected at Tai Sha Tan, to-day.

These buildings will be the headquarters for those connected with the operation of the railway works of the Chinese section of the Canton-Kowloon line.

Many military and naval officials, both British and Chinese, were present.

The Governor of Hongkong, Sir Frederick Lugard, his aides-de-camp, and several Consular representatives were in attendance.

The party visited the works and afterwards sat down to a sumptuous

But subsequently, the Chinese managing director, His Excellency Tse Hai Han, proposed success to the works, at the same time referring to the progress of the British section.

His Excellency Sir Frederick Lugard responded.

The Consul-General at Canton, Mr. Fox, proposed the toast: "Prosperity to the Chinese section of the

Canton-Kowloon railway," to which an enthusiastic response was given.

The representative of the British and Chinese Corporation replied in appropriate terms.

Following him came the Chief Engineer of the line, who mentioned that the probable completion of the through line would be effected by 1st July, 1911.

Our Canton correspondent, writing under yesterday's date, says that there will be a "jubilee" event celebrated to-morrow (7th inst.) in the city of Canton, when M.E. Chang Jen-shun, the foundation stone of the principal station at the eastern suburb of the Canton-Kowloon Railway (Chinese section) opposite Tai Sha Tan, will be laid.

The Director has also directed a steam-launch to be moored off Shamone at 10 o'clock in the morning to be placed at the disposal of guests on the Shamen who will proceed to Tai Sha Tan, where they will land.

In the morning, H.E. Viceroy Chang will personally conduct the guests round the railway works and at 12.30 p.m. H.E. will perform the ceremony of laying the foundation stone; at the conclusion of which the guests will be entertained to dinner at 1.30 p.m. A large gathering will doubtless be present on the auspicious occasion.

SHIPMASTER'S DIFFICULTIES.

JUDGMENT IN "TAK HING" COLLISION CASE.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 6th April.

An important judgment in the shipping community was delivered by Mr. Justice Gompertz, in the Supreme Court, last Thursday, in the action brought by the owners of the steamer Tak Hing in which they sought to recover damages from the owners of the tugboat Tak Hing, which the Tak Hing came into collision with.

The Tak Hing came into collision with the tugboat Tak Hing on the 10th inst. The claim was to recover a certain sum of money for the delay of the steamer and for divers fees.

In giving his decision against the owners of the Tak Hing, His Lordship said: "With the concurrence of the parties I have considered the evidence in this case with the valuable assistance of the Assistant Harbour Master, Lieut. Beckwith, R.N."

The facts as given in the evidence are taking them as given, as follows: At 5.10 a.m. on the 10th inst. the plaintiff company's steamer Tak Hing was proceeding through the Southern Channel on the way to her wharf. Outside and before commencing to back into the wharf the captain saw the defendant's boat lying some twenty feet from the side of the plaintiff company's private wharf. The night-soil boat was hailed by the Tak Hing and the Tak Hing then came backing into the wharf and picked up the night-soil boat.

The night-soil boat was then moved to the side of the wharf and the captain saw the defendant's boat lying some twenty feet from the side of the plaintiff company's private wharf. The night-soil boat was hailed by the Tak Hing and the Tak Hing then came backing into the wharf and picked up the night-soil boat.

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PARTNER OR MANAGER?

PUBLIC EXAMINATION OF DIRECTOR OF CONTRACTOR'S FIRM.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 6th April.

The managing partner of a firm of contractors, which got into difficulties some time ago, made some very interesting statements in the Bankruptcy Jurisdiction Court, last Thursday, when he was publicly examined into his and the firm's affairs by the Official Receiver—Mr. G. H. Wakeman.

The Chief Justice (Sir Francis Pigott) presided, and Messrs. Crowther, Smith, Lee, d'Almeida e Castro and J. H. Gardiner, watched proceedings on behalf of the interest of a number of creditors.

Ng Yung Sang, the managing partner in the debtor firm, Ng Yung Sang & Co., a firm of contractors, stated that there were three other partners. The subscribed capital of the firm amounted to \$1,250, and were divided as under:—Witness had \$2,000 shares, Hang Seng Tsang had \$1,000, and the other, Wing On Tsang, made up the balance.

The Official Receiver—When was the business started?—About the middle of March, 1907. A man named Cheung Tsung Tsang promised to advance \$1,000 and become a partner, but he did not turn up.

Is he a partner now?—He says he is. But you called him a partner?—Yes. Why?—He is not a partner. I called him so because he bought goods for us.

Why did he claim to be a partner?—Because he had charge of the business. Isn't it funny that he should claim to be a partner in a bankrupt firm?—He had charge of the whole show. This man has made an affidavit saying that he is a partner?—So he is. But haven't you denied all along that he was a partner?—Yes, but his name is in the share book as having one share, but his money was never forthcoming.

Has the firm ever made any profit?—No. When you were manager did you borrow any money from a man named Ng Ching Wa?—Yes, \$1,000.

Were there any collusion between you and the petitioning creditor to bring about these proceedings?—No.

Was it a fact that you were about to abscond from the Colony during the proceedings?—No.

What was the reason for the failure of the firm?—We hadn't enough money to pay the creditors.

He had no property, no share in any property, and he did not know whether his partners had any property.

A representative of Messrs. R. Corney and Company cross-examined the witness, who denied that he had \$1,000 in the Yuen On firm. When the firm purchased the articles from Corney and Company witness was out of the Colony and did not know whether the firm was solvent or not.

Well, it is a funny thing that when you got the goods from us, you filed your petition in bankruptcy?—No, we did not.

What was the reason you sneaked away the firm's books in the night-time?—I don't know. I wasn't in charge of them.

LADY'S COSTUME IN QUESTION.

SUES TAILOR FOR PRICE OF SILK.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 6th April.

Ladies' costumes, when they have to be discussed before a judge are always of some interest, especially when it comes to the "latest fashion."

In the Supreme Court, last Thursday, Mr. Justice Gompertz presiding, a woman named Lottie Leebury was the defendant in an action brought by Yau Lee, a lady's tailor, of 11, D'Almeida Street, to recover the sum of \$10.75 for the making of a dress. A cross-action was also heard against the tailor for \$48.20, being the price of a piece of silk which he was alleged to have stolen.

The parties appeared in person. The tailor stated in his evidence, that about two months ago defendant gave him several yards of silk (about \$100) with which to make her a dress. When the dress was finished defendant made some complaint. She said that the dress was too tight about the waist, too large elsewhere, and that the blouse was not the style she wanted. Plaintiff had the dress altered but still it did not come up to defendant's taste.

Mr. Justice Gompertz—What was the colour of the dress?

Plaintiff—Brown.

Asked by the Court as to whether the dress was in the building, defendant replied that it was at her home.

Lottie Leebury, who appeared to be somewhat over twenty-five years of age, was attired in a sky blue dress and a straw cut-down hat with brown trimmings. She stepped jauntily into the witness box and told her story at a rather quick rate. She denied everything the tailor had said. She said that she gave the man a piece of silk with which to make her a dress. She told the tailor to make her a dress. She said she would pay for the silk. The tailor said "Surprised, the fair one, went on," but when the dress came home it was soiled, and would not fit. The tailor told me I wanted the dress made small, but I did not. I can't wear the dress. I have tried to let another lady have it but neither would it fit her. She got the dress made up for her. The Police Court. She had offered to let the tailor have the dress and let him pay her the \$48 and she would give him the costume, which was no good to her.

His Lordship said he could not decide the case until he knows how much silk Miss Leebury had given the tailor, and adjourned the case for a week.

CANTON-DAY BY DAY.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

[From Our Own Correspondent]

Canton, 2nd April.

It has been reported from time to time that the railway matters of the Canton-Hankow Railway Company have been the subject of state of confusion, since the appointment of Tse Hai Han as Resident Director-General in Canton by H.E. Chang Chih-tung, Superintendent of the Railway. On account of the appointment of this official, the members of the Board of Directors of the Company found it inexpedient for them to remain any longer in the Company's employ. Dissatisfaction still prevails among the Directors.

A NEW COMPANY. Mr

QUARANTINE restrictions have been imposed

QUARANTINE restrictions have been imposed upon all arrivals from Hongkong, by British North Borneo.

The Colonial Secretary courteously informs us that the Government of Hongkong

THE Zojoji Temple at Tokio, a Japanese pantheon, was almost entirely destroyed by fire

The town of Tishling and the surrounding railway zone have been inundated by an overflow of the Leach, due to the rapid thaw.

THE Russian newspaper at Harbin contradicts the report that Harbin will be converted into an International Settlement, owing to the difficulties surrounding railway jurisdiction.

1. I. H. PRINCE Fukushima has been appointed representative of Japan at the forthcoming funeral of the late Emperor of China. Lieutenant Fukushima will act as chief of the prince's suite.

By the Police Court last Tuesday, seven coolies, who were found in the servants' quarters of the Rosary Church, at Kowloon, without permission, were fined \$7 each. They had not the money, and each went to gaol for a week.

ews has reached Singapore of a terrible massacre on board the Dutch steamer *Van Imhoff*, which occurred in one of the ports of the Sang Islands. It is said that nineteen of the crew, including the European officers, were killed.

WING to a landslip one gallery gave way on March 29, in a sulphur mine near Hakodate, which belongs to Messrs. Howell & Co., British merchants. The fall of earth blocked the mouth of another gallery. Thirty-four men were killed and twenty-two injured.

BURGLARY took place at the Masonic Club some time last Monday night. Boring a panel through a window and releasing the bolt, the thief or burglars succeeded in removing

stated that numerous foreign merchants endeavouring to secure orders to build me-

ned their offers as it is premature to take the question owing to want of funds. His Highness has also declined loans that have been offered for the reconstruction of the Navy.

MAIL, of James and Company, through
 solicitor, Mr. Leo. d'Almada. e Castro, ap-
 peared before the Chief Justice last Thursday for his
 discharge as a bankrupt. The Official Receiver,
 stated that the discharge be suspended, adding
 that the bankrupt had contracted debts after

Insolvent.—Discharge suspended for a

Tails 243,300, which is an increase of 17 per cent. compared with that of the last year, the revenue at Chetoo is Tails 164,900 a decrease of ten per cent. compared with the last year.

governor of Kwangsi province has sent a
memorandum to the Peking Government strongly
recommending that the districts there, which
have been under the rule of local hereditary
rulers, shall revert to Chinese administration.
The government orders the scheme to be carried out.

later on, as its adoption may cause
ons and troubles.

Bill authorising the Indo-Chinese
stration to issue a loan of 153,000,000
(600) for the completion of the Yunnan

was adopted by the French Chamber of Deputies on 2nd ult. It was met by some criticism, whilst M. Doumer, ex-Governor of Indo-China, defended the Bill. He said that the line, which is destined to be the rich province of Szechwan.

W. Pontius, of the American Consular
arrived at Shanghai on 29th ult. from
region, en route for Swatow, to which

has been appointed as Consul. Mr. came to Chifu several years ago, and dying in Peking as a student interpreter, was appointed Vice-Consul-in-charge at and afterwards Vice-Consul-in-charge at Kwang. He will proceed to his post.

Thursday, in the Supreme Court Mr. Tompkins presiding, E. A. M. Williams, at liquidator of the St. George's Club, action against J. Clelland.

wooloon, to recover the sum of \$25 due defendant, under Clause 5 of the Memorandum of Association of the club (in which Mr. P. W. Goldring (of Messrs. Barlow and Morrell) appeared for the defendant).

meter April 7 at 10 a.m. April 7 at 4 p.m.

Temperature	68	69	longko
Adm	20	30	longko
hall			longko
			Meatsch
			plois

SEKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK.
at Kowloon Dock

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ld is 30 cents per quarter.
oles, Daily, ten cents. Weekly,
ve cents (for cash only).
PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.)

There will be no rebate to Missionary
as heretofore.

Order,

THE MANAGER,

Harbin.

4, and December, 1968. 10

THE Colonial Secretary courted a

The Colonial Secretary courteously informs us that Hongkong has been declared an infected port by the Government of Colombo.

THE *Wojoki Temple* at Tokio, a Japanese pagoda, was almost entirely destroyed by an earthquake the other morning; it was not insured.

THE town of Tieling and the surrounding railway zone have been inundated by an overflow of the Liaohe due to the rapid thaw. Some damage has been done.

THE Russian newspaper at Harbin contradicts the report that Harbin will be converted into an International Settlement, owing to the difficulties surrounding railway jurisdiction.

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BURGLARY took place at the Masonic Club the time last Monday night. Boring a panel through a window and releasing the bolt, the burglars or burglars succeeded in removing at \$10 worth of property. The report to police was made by Mr. J. Vanstone, the taker.

It is stated that numerous foreign merchants endeavouring to secure orders to build men-of-war from Prince Su, but his Highness has refused their offers as it is premature to take the question owing to want of funds. His Highness has also declined loans that have been offered for the reconstruction of the Navy.

REMAIL of Hajee and Company, through solicitor, Mr. Leo, d'Almeida, de Castro, applied to the Chief Justice last Thursday for his discharge as a bankrupt. The Official Receiver stated that the discharge be suspended, adding that the bankrupt had contracted debts after he was insolvent. — Discharge suspended for a week.

A *Mainichi* telegram dated Kiaochoo, March, says:—The Revenue of the Mariu-Canton at Kiaochoo since January this year is Taels 243,300, which is an increase of 17 per cent. compared with that of the last year, the revenue at Chefoo is Taels 164,000, a decrease of ten per cent. compared with the last year.

THE Governor of Kwangsi province has sent a message to the Peking Government strongly recommending that the districts there, which are under the rule of local hereditary chieftains, shall revert to Chinese administration. The Government orders the scheme to be considered on, as its adoption may cause disturbances and troubles.

A Bill authorising the Indo-Chinese Government to issue a loan of 55,000,000 francs for the completion of the Yunnan railway was adopted by the French Chamber of Deputies on 22nd March. It was met by some criticism, whilst Mr. Doumer, ex-Governor of Indo-China, defended the Bill. He stated that the line, which is destined to reach the rich province of Szechuan, will cost 60,000,000.

W. Pontius, of the American Consular Service, arrived at Shanghai on 20th ult. from London, en route for Swatow, to which he has been appointed as Consul. Mr. Pontius has been in China several years ago, and is now living in Peking as a student interpreter. He was appointed Vice-Consul-in-charge at Swatow, and afterwards Vice-Consul-in-charge at Shanghai. He will proceed to his new post in a week's day in Shanghai.

On Thursday, in the Supreme Court Mr. Justice G. A. M. Williams, as President, at the liquidator of the St. George's Club, in liquidation against J. Clelland, of Kimberley, Swatow, to recover the sum of \$35 due to the defendant, under Clause 1 of the Memorandum of Association of the club (in which Mr. P. W. Goldring (of Messrs. Barlow and Morrell) appeared for the defendant) admitted the debt, and judgment was entered accordingly.

	April 2nd 10.0 A.M.	April 3rd 4.0 P.M.
Revenue	30.10	20.99
Expenditure	68	60
Balance	29	39

LUCK RETURNS.
KOWLOON AND WHAMPO DOCKS.
Arrived at Kowloon Dock

	17th	18th	19th
Arrived	11	11	11
Departed	11	11	11

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.
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THE MANAGER.
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